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'The Jerusalem Post's' David Makovsky: First Israeli journalist authorized to visit Saudi Arabia

DAVID MAKOVSKY
JEDDA

Jedda: Saudi Arabia's 'liberal' city

KNOWN in Arabic as the "Bride of the Red Sea," the port city of Jedda prides itself on a relative openness to foreigners that does not characterize the rest of Saudi Arabia, including the capital, Riyadh.

Ironically, this openness stems from the fact that apart from being a shipping center, Jedda is the "gateway to Mecca," 70 kilometers away, a city that is closed to non-Muslims. Non-Saudi influences can be felt in Jedda, through which Moslem pilgrims pass on the haj to Mecca every year.

In contrast to Riyadh, foreign women who do not cover their

hair in Jedda are tolerated. Even the Saudi women do not all wear veils here, and some wear scarves that cover only some of their hair. The white-clad religious police, known as the Mutawa, who are supposed to enforce such matters as the closing of shops five times a day for prayers, are known not have much of a presence here.

Jedda is considered the cultural capital of the country, and is home to most of the nation's artists. Even King Fahd prefers to live here a good portion of the year.

This is still Saudi Arabia, how-

ever, and the openness is indeed relative. Women cannot drive cars, and no regular tourism from any country is permitted. Apart from pilgrims, the only foreigners allowed to visit are those on work permits, whose sponsors are responsible for them. Saudi Arabia confiscates the passports of those who visit, and requires that foreigners obtain permission to travel within the country.

Moreover, according to the most recent US State Department Human Rights report, 92 people were beheaded throughout the country last year. The executions are public spectacles.

People have been executed for murder, rape, and drug offenses. Two days ago, the Saudi-based Arab News daily reported that a "witch doctor" had been beheaded.

Despite these traditions, Jedda seems to be a mix between the old and the new. There are several modern skyscrapers that house such shops as Tiffany's and Chanel - not to mention Kentucky Fried Chicken - which coexist alongside 19th century Arab architecture.

Saudi authorities seek to show hospitality on those few guests it does invite. In every city, the

Saudi royal family owns something called a "conference palace." The royal family guest house in Jedda is a converted Intercontinental Hotel, with plush lobbies complete with marble floors and Oriental carpets. Guests, including journalists, are invited to stay, eat and phone abroad at no charge.

During my short stay, it was hard to gauge public attitudes towards Israel. US officials say that since the Oslo accords, Saudi television shows pictures of Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin speaking. Newspaper editorials have been generally supportive



David Makovsky

of the peace process. Sami, a US-educated Saudi, said he sees generational changes in the feelings towards Israel.

"The younger generation does not remember the old wars," he said. "Saudi Arabia is in transition now. Formal peace can come soon, even though a natural peace may take another generation."

"However, the key is the Palestinians," he continued. "When Israel reaches an understanding in resolving the Palestinian issue, it will be accepted in the Arab world. It is no use to try another way. There is an Arabic proverb 'Why go through the window when you can go through the door.' The Palestinians are the gate for Israel to the Arab world."

7 bombs neutralized in Gaza

ALON PINKAS

ARMY engineers and police snipers neutralized seven different roadside bombs planted in the Gaza Strip yesterday. One device contained over 50 kg. of explosives, and defusing it took more than an hour.

Army sources said there has been a significant increase recently in the number of bombs being planted near and on roads frequently used by IDF and Palestinian Police patrols.

"This type of terror is similar to what we experienced in Lebanon in the mid-1980s and is identical to the mode of operation used by Hizbullah in southern Lebanon today," one Southern Command source said.

The IDF and the Palestinian Police were put on heightened alert.

Four relatively small roadside charges were found by army patrols in the morning near the Nabal Oz crossing, and were defused by a police bomb squad. The army and Border Police then searched for more devices on road shoulders, in garbage piles near the roads, and in random sites.

In the afternoon, two booby-trapped grenades were found near the Morag junction. They were defused immediately by police experts.

Later in the afternoon, the 50-kg. bomb was found south of Kfar Darom in the Gush Katif area, apparently by a Palestinian child. It was found under a plastic vegetable box.

Army engineers and a police

IDF presents '95 work plan to cabinet

ALON PINKAS

SENIOR IDF officers yesterday briefed the cabinet on the work plan for fiscal 1995 which, according to army sources, is characterized by increased budgetary constraints. The plan also provides for substantial weapon systems acquisitions and more training for field units and flying hours than in the previous three years.

The annual work plan is presented immediately following the annual intelligence assessment, which constitutes the basis for planning.

The plan is formulated by the Planning Branch, but all IDF branches, commands, and corps participate actively in its preparation.

Virtually the entire General Staff participated in the briefing. They said that while new advanced systems will be received and integrated throughout the year, the IDF's qualitative advantages are off-set by quantitative limitations caused by a smaller budget in real terms, as well as less than optimal training levels. The cost of a modernized military, the ministers were told, is significantly higher, as are resources needed for intelligence gathering.

(Continued on Page 2)



British Prime Minister John Major and Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin speak in front of the Prime Minister's Office yesterday. (Ariel Jerozolimski)

Major: No place for violence in democracy

LIAT COLLINS

FORTY-SEVEN years after the British left the country, the Union Jack was again flying over Jerusalem yesterday, as British Prime Minister John Major began a two-day visit.

Addressing a dinner in Major's honor, held, somewhat ironically, at the King David Hotel, both Major and Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin discussed terrorism.

"We are constantly tested. The scourge of terrorism has afflicted both our countries," Major said. "There can be no place for violence in a democratic state."

Rabin stressed that "the only obstacle to our common goal [of peace] is terrorism."

Major, only the second British prime minister to visit Israel, took a strong stand against Iraq's Saddam Hussein.

"Since the Gulf War, the UN Special Commission has made great progress in detecting and destroying Iraq's weapons of mass destruction. This has been achieved by the firm and sustained pressure of the sanctions regime."

"Sanctions must continue, until their objectives are met, and met in full," Major continued. "The international community must not be lulled by Saddam's tactics of evasion and deception. I can assure you, that the United Kingdom will not be deceived."

The British signed an agreement yesterday with Science Minister Shulamit Aloni, doubling the science and technology research fund established by the two countries last year.

Major noted that Israel is Britain's third-largest market in the Middle East, amounting to £1.5 billion a year.

"Trade and investment go hand in hand, and investment in Israel is a prudent investment for

the future," Major said. Following a meeting with Rabin, Major was asked why he didn't welcome a meeting between Sinn Fein leader Gerry Adams and US President Bill Clinton if he was willing to meet with PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat.

Major called it a "mischievous comparison."

"Terrorism has now been denounced by Chairman Arafat. I've not seen it comprehensively denounced by Mr. Adams," he said. "Chairman Arafat is now actively opposing terrorism. I'm afraid the Sinn Fein is directly associated with a fully formed

terrorist organization."

In interviews published yesterday, Major said he planned to increase financial aid to the Palestinian Authority when he meets Arafat in Gaza tomorrow. Thus far, Britain has pledged \$125 million over three years.

Palestinian officials were buoyed by Major's promises of aid. "We hope Major's visit will take this peace process one step forward," Palestinian Planning Minister Nabil Shaath told AP.

Today, the businessmen accompanying Major will be meeting with several of their Israeli counterparts. Foreign Minister Peres is to meet with Major this morning, and have lunch with the businessmen this afternoon.

US general to visit Syrian side of Golan

Shalikashvili aide tries to revive security talks

DAVID MAKOVSKY
JEDDA

GEN. Daniel Christman, an aide to Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Gen. John Shalikashvili, will visit the Syrian side of the Golan Heights today. The Jerusalem Post has learned, apparently as part of a US move to revive the talks on Israeli-Syrian security arrangements, which ground to a halt in December.

At the same time, US Secretary of State Warren Christopher, with whom he is traveling, will meet President Hafez Assad in Damascus.

Israel has apparently not been informed in advance of Christman's plans.

Christopher and his entourage were scheduled to leave Saudi Arabia for Damascus last night, after Christopher met with King Fahd, who kept him waiting for seven hours.

Syria said it hoped Christopher's visit would produce results and "not be like his previous ones," but it also attacked Washington for backing Israel.

Meanwhile, there are signs that Gulf links to Israel, put on hold earlier this year after December's Egypt-Syria-Saudi Arabia summit in Alexandria, will soon be resumed.

A senior Clinton administration official, speaking after Christopher met with the six-nation Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) here, voiced confidence that the Gulf states would move ahead with ties with Israel. He cited Saudi Foreign Minister Saud al-Faisal's recent promise that these links would go ahead.

Much of the US-GCC meeting focused on voicing unanimous support for continued UN sanctions against Iraq. The foreign ministers of Oman and Qatar were not present, claiming technical problems, but each sent an envoy who endorsed the unanimous communiqué.

Iraqi Foreign Minister Mohammed Saeed Sabah visited Qatar on Saturday and Oman yesterday to press Baghdad's case for the lifting of sanctions.

The six members of the GCC are: Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Bahrain, United Arab Emirates, Oman and Qatar.

The joint communiqué voiced broad support for the peace process, including US efforts to attain regional peace. The state-

ment also condemned "all forms of terrorism."

At a joint news conference with Christopher, Bahrain's Foreign Minister Mohammed Khalifa - whose country holds the rotating chair of the GCC - denied the Gulf states have slowed down their links with Israel.

"I wouldn't say there is any pressure on us to slow down," he said. "On the contrary, we are for pushing the process forward, and we believe that peace, a comprehensive settlement in the region, will be beneficial to all countries in the region, including us. Therefore, we have an interest to see this process succeed. Certainly, we are worried and concerned about progress on the Syrian and Lebanese track, but that's why we are trying with our friends, the United States, other allies, to push this process forward."

Last week, Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin told Christopher that he blamed Egypt and Syria for pressing the Gulf states to halt moves toward normalization.

The joint communiqué issued after the meeting with Christopher declares: "The Gulf Cooperation Council ministers expressed strong support for the secretary's trip and praised the US administration's continued efforts to promote the peace process. They reaffirmed the Cooperation Council's support for the Israeli-Palestinian Declaration of Principles and the peace treaty between Israel and Jordan. The ministers recognized these agreements as important steps toward the achievement of a comprehensive peace."

"The ministers emphasized the importance of early implementation of the second phase of the Declaration of Principles, and underscored the need for progress in negotiations between Israel and Syria and Israel and Lebanon. The ministers stressed the importance of a comprehensive peace and reaffirmed their determination to work together to achieve that goal. They condemned all acts of violence and terrorism."

Christopher termed the Arab boycott an "anachronism whose time has come to an end." He lauded the GCC countries for terminating the secondary and tertiary boycott last fall, and predicted that its leadership will ultimately mean the Arab League will allow all Arab states to make their own decisions about adhering to the boycott.

The GCC states still formally adhere to the primary boycott, forbidding direct trade with Israel.

The senior administration official said the US is closely watching how the GCC countries have translated their decision on the boycott into policy.

"Certainly, I agree... we should look forward, and speak about comprehensive peace in the region," Khalifa said. "And I think all those obstacles, which really slow down the peace process, should be looked at very carefully, and we should try to improve the atmosphere for a richer opportunity for peace."

Asked about Hamas terrorism, Khalifa said, "In our community we spoke about any... terrorist act: We are against it. In any shape or form."

Christopher also appealed to the Gulf states to do more to provide economic assistance to the Palestinians.

"I strongly urged those countries which have outstanding pledges to pay up their outstanding pledges, and urge them to consider making contributions to the Palestinian Authority, and especially to the Holst Fund for 1995," Christopher said.

"We are at a critical stage of Palestinian development. There have been some promising steps forward, but they need some additional assistance in this intervening period."

The senior administration official said the US was asking Saudi Arabia, which paid its entire \$100 million pledge to the PA last year, to provide at least an equivalent amount this year for recurrent expenses.

He indicated other Gulf countries have not paid last year's pledges. For example, Kuwait has only paid \$8m. of its \$25m. pledge, and the United Arab Emirates, \$5m. of \$15m.

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Peres, Hassan discuss water, other issues

FOREIGN Minister Shimon Peres met with Crown Prince Hassan in Amman yesterday to coordinate their positions for Wednesday's meeting with Chancellor Helmut Kohl and the European Union commissioner in Bonn.

The two developed a joint stance on projects to create new water sources for Jordan, as specified in the peace treaty, the Foreign Ministry announced.

Jerusalem Post Reporter

The Bonn meeting will be an opportunity for a joint appeal for European financial help for these projects.

The two also discussed other issues, such as: facilitating joint projects in the Jordan Valley; a regional education committee; turning the Eilat-Akaba-Taba area into a free-trade zone; establishing a Europe-Jordan-Israel

economic committee; preparing for the Amman conference (a continuation of the Casablanca Conference); a regional development bank; and the establishment of a regional security structure.

The two agreed that they will hold a joint press conference in Bonn, and that Hassan will eat dinner, along with Peres and German Foreign Minister Klaus Kinkel, at the Israeli Embassy.

Suicide bombings almost double terror toll since Oslo

Jerusalem Post Reporter

TERROR claimed the lives of 123 Israelis during the 18 months since the Oslo accords were signed, 85 percent more than during the 18-month period preceding the accords, according to Peace Watch, a group monitoring implementation of the Oslo agreements.

Only 67 Israelis were killed between March 1992 and September

ber 8, 1993, the eve of the signing of mutual recognition between Israel and the PLO.

The increase came principally within the Green Line, where fatalities more than tripled. From March 1992 to September 8, 1993, only 23 Israelis were killed in sovereign Israel, while

from September 9, 1993 through March 8, the figure jumped to 81.

In Judea, Samaria, and Gaza, the number killed in terror attacks dropped from 44 to 42.

Though the number of Israelis killed was up sharply, the number of fatal attacks remained essen-

tially the same, 55 in the period after the signing, compared to 52 in the 18 months before.

The near doubling in fatalities was caused primarily by the increase in suicide bombings. In the 18 months before the accords, there were no deaths caused by suicide bombings, while 59 were killed by suicide bombers since the accords.

Peace Now youth, hunger strikers conduct a dialogue of the deaf

HERB KEINON

IN the month since the hunger strike began across from the Prime Minister's Office to protest continued implementation of the Oslo accords, hundreds of people have visited the protest tent and offered support - mostly from the Right or the religious Zionist camp.

Yesterday the hunger strikers were visited by a different type of delegation - some 20 students from a Jerusalem Peace Now youth group.

The group was addressed by Elon Moreh activist Benny Katsover, who told them that what is needed is to settle a half-million Jews in the territories.

They were also addressed by Yehuda Wachman, the father of slain soldier Nahshon Wachman, who said that although he had supported the Oslo accords in the beginning, the continuation of terror makes it impossible to carry on with the agreement.

The group sat attentively - and then made it clear that they were not buying any of it.

"For the Palestinians, nothing has changed," said Ori Kopish, a high-school student who had no qualms about challenging Wachman or Katsover.

"Many of the Palestinians don't have homes, or money. So they despair, and when they despair they have no problems committing suicide, and they figure, why not take some Jews with them. We should make sure that the Palestinian Authority gets money," he said.

As the debate heated up, many of the more than 33 hunger strikers entered the tent, plastered with pictures of some of the 132 terror victims killed since the signing of the Oslo accord, and argued with the students.

Statements that the Arabs have more than 20 states that could easily take in the Palestinians, were rebuffed by the students, one of whom said, "Maybe, but the Palestinians were born here."

And the statement by one of the students that the IDF is an "oppressive army" were met by calls of "shame," and "disgrace," by the hunger strikers.

Even a seemingly innocent statement by Katsover, - that "we are all Jews and should be able to talk" - was rejected by Kopish, who replied, "Palestinians also can talk. So can Indians and Pakistanis. Not only Jews."

One yeshiva student, who came to identify with the hunger strikers, said that what is important is unity. A Peace Now student replied, "Fine, turn to the left, and we will be unified."

Nothing better illustrated the divide, however, than when the yeshiva student said, "Why, when I go to the Temple Mount, am I given two guards who are there to make sure that I do not dare recite a verse from Psalms?"

To which Chen Raz, the counselor of the group, answered: "That doesn't matter to me; it's not my problem."

Rabbi Dr. LOUIS BERNSTEIN

The funeral will be held at Beit Shemesh Cemetery. For details, please call 02-272548 or 02-7343111

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entrance to Har Hamenuhot, Jerusalem.

The Family

Attempted Nablus kidnapping turns into shootout

BILL HUTMAN

POLICE are investigating whether Palestinian security agents were responsible for yesterday's attempted kidnapping of a Nablus resident, which ended in a gun battle with his friends.

There were no injuries in the exchange of fire that erupted after four Palestinians, disguised as IDF soldiers, tried to kidnap the man early yesterday morning. After the battle, they fled.

Two of the kidnapers, brothers from Nablus, were detained. Police said they were security prisoners freed after the signing of the Oslo Accord, on condition they stay in Jericho.

Their sister was also detained, after police found 43 knives, two firebombs, and other light weapons in their home.

Police source noted there have been several recent instances of Palestinian security agents kidnapping Palestinians suspected of wrongdoing and taking them to Jericho for interrogation.

This incident appeared to be similarly motivated, although other possibilities had not been ruled out, police sources said.

Lebanon marks anniversary of Litani Operation with general strike today

DAVID RUDGE

A GENERAL strike is set to be held in Lebanon today as part of moves by the authorities to mark the anniversary of the 1978 Litani operation and to press for Israel's withdrawal from the security zone.

Mass demonstrations are scheduled to be staged outside the UN's offices in Beirut and in Tibnin village, north of the security zone in south Lebanon.

The Lebanese parliament is to hold a special session in Beirut tomorrow, after which the cabinet is due to meet in Nabatiya in the south, in a show of solidarity with residents of the region.

Not all Lebanese, however, are excited about the measures

which are being organized primarily by Lebanese parliament speaker Nabih Berri who is also leader of the pro-Syrian Amal Shi'ite movement.

Hizbullah has said it will boycott all the events saying it wants to celebrate the liberation of Lebanon from "the occupation of the Zionist enemy" and not commemorate the anniversary of an Israeli invasion. Druse leader Walid Jumblatt has also criticized the planned events, describing them as an ineffectual gimmick.

Meanwhile, Itim reported yesterday that SLA soldiers were paid a bonus of \$100 during Id al-Fitr to help raise the morale of the force.

Itim said an SLA soldier is paid, on average, between \$300 to \$400 a month, which is considered a good salary in Lebanon. The increased efforts by Israel follow concerted attacks by Hizbullah on the SLA, in an attempt to demoralize the force and cause it to break up.

IDF

(Continued from Page 1)
While the 21 (possibly 25) new F-15s will only be received in 1997, new Apache attack helicopters and Blackhawk transport helicopters have been received, as have 48 F-16s from US stockpiles in Europe. The navy will modernize considerably through the acquisition of a third SAAR-5 missile frigate and the three Dolphin-class submarines built by Germany. The first two of these are expected to arrive in 1996.

The artillery acquired the advanced Multiple Launched Rocket System, which will become operational this year, and more armored battalions will receive the Merkava-3 tank.

But the bulk of the operational budget (excluding salaries, rehabilitation of families of fallen, and US aid) will be going to routine security in the territories and south Lebanon and the battle against terror. Additional resources are likely to be diverted to redeployment in Judea and Samaria.

The cabinet was told that the three-year compulsory service for men will not be shortened, but reserve days will be cut, although most of the burden will still be carried by the combat units.

Education Minister Amnon Rubinstein said the defense budget has been steadily eroded since the peace agreement with Egypt was signed in 1979. He added that the IDF has "specific large ad hoc expenditures, when it is asked to carry out tasks such as separation or redeployment."

Meanwhile, Finance Minister Avraham Shohat presented to the cabinet his proposal to distribute free vouchers to the public for the purchase of stock in state-owned companies.

According to the prime minister's spokesman, Benai Cohen, the cabinet's discussions on security matters overtook Shohat's proposal, so that there was not enough time for the ministers to address it. As a result, the cabinet agreed to push off discussions to a future meeting, Cohen said.

BOMBS

(Continued from Page 1)
bomb squad determined the device was significantly larger than the previous bombs and grenades that had been discovered. The army then closed the roads leading to the site, causing severe traffic congestion.

Police experts said that a controlled detonation of such a large device could possibly damage a nearby bridge. The bomb had to

be moved, and when it was eventually detonated, left a ten-meter wide crater.

Palestinian sources told news agencies in Gaza the bomb was planted near the road on which Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat was scheduled to pass on his way back from Cairo. The sources did not say that Arafat was the target of the bomb.



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CORRECTION
In the story entitled "The cruel reality of implementing the Oslo accord," on Page 8 of the Friday, March 10, edition, the name of Hebrew University political science Prof. Rafiella Beilski Ben-Hur was given incorrectly.

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REMINDER: Registration with, and Transfer between Sick Funds

Those who wish to transfer from one sick fund to another are reminded that the last date for submitting a request to do this is March 31, 1995. The transfer will take effect on July 1, 1995.

Those registered for at least one year in a sick fund, and those who, on the eve of the introduction of the new law, were not members of any fund, and who were therefore registered by the Minister of Health as members of some fund, have the right to transfer to another fund.

A soldier who receives a notice, informing him that he is a member of a fund, is to regard the notice as null and void; he may register with any fund he chooses, on release from the armed forces.

A request to transfer to another fund may be submitted at any time, but such transfers will be effected only once every six months.

A person who, in any year, submits a request to transfer by September 30, will be transferred, effective the following January 1. A person who, in any year, submits a request to transfer by March 31, will be transferred, effective the following July 1.

A request to be transferred can be canceled, up to 60 days from the date on which it is scheduled to come into effect.

Such a request should be submitted to the sick fund you wish to join.

NATIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE LAW

سكنا من الاصل

13, 1995 The Jerusalem Post
terror toll since Oct
a dialogue of the
funeral attended by
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INSURANCE LAW

הכאן השחור

Agency: Emissary died due to CIS violence

THE death of Jewish Agency emissary Shimon Feingold in Kiev on Saturday was the result neither of antisemitism nor of anti-Israeli feelings, but rather of the general atmosphere of violence in the region, according to Haim Chessler, head of the Jewish Agency's mission in the CIS and Baltic states.

The body of Feingold, who was responsible for student and youth activities in Ukraine, is due to arrive from Kiev early this morning. The funeral is scheduled to

take place at 3 p.m. today at Kibbutz Hatzertim, where Feingold had served as secretary before leaving for Ukraine.

Feingold, who lived on the fifth floor of an apartment building, died after he had gone to ask his upstairs neighbors to stop making so much noise. After hearing a loud bang, his wife, Chava, who lived with him and their daughter, Leshem, went out to find him bleeding in the stairwell.

Chessler said Feingold had been neither shot nor stabbed.

Jerusalem Post Staff

An autopsy showed that he had received a very powerful blow to the jaw, following which he fell down the stairwell. After the attack, police arrived to find the attackers' apartment locked and empty, but Kiev police arrested two of those living there yesterday afternoon and they were being interrogated.

Feingold had been responsible for the activities of about 1,000 young people, according to

Chessler. In addition, he had supervised a summer camp program which had about 4,000 participants. Chessler stressed that Feingold had been part of a team responsible for an 80 percent increase in aliya from Ukraine. He stressed that work would continue as usual, despite the tragedy.

"The last thing in the world we want is to stop working," Chessler said.

He added that this was not the first time that emissaries had been attacked. He himself had

been attacked on the street in St. Petersburg. There too, the attack had not been motivated by antisemitism, Chessler said.

However, as a result of the attack, Acting Jewish Agency Chairman Avraham Burg, speaking at a special meeting of the agency's executive, issued a directive to all the 92 emissaries in the former USSR to raise their consciousness of their personal safety. Chessler said he intended to organize a course for the emissaries on this subject.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Undercover guards now riding buses

Undercover security guards are already on duty in the public transport system, Transport Minister Yisrael Kassar told a conference on security to prevent terror attacks in public transport yesterday. Transport Ministry spokesman Eli Danon said that hundreds of bus drivers have already taken courses aimed at raising their ability to deal with terror attacks. He also said that the ministry is to provide the budget for a special anti-terror unit for public transport.

Man killed in work accident

A Nablus worker was killed yesterday afternoon when he was hit by a forklift loaded with tree branches in a Gan Yavneh warehouse. He was declared dead at the scene by paramedics.

Two remanded for spitting at priest

Two youths who are suspected of spitting on an Armenian priest in Jerusalem's Old City on Saturday were remanded for four days yesterday by Jerusalem Magistrate's Court.

Alexei Lipkin, 19, and a 17-year-old youth allegedly spat at the priest as he was marching in a procession of priests near Jaffa Gate. A policeman accompanying the procession demanded their identity cards, and when they said they didn't have them, he arrested them. Their identity cards were found on them during a search at the police station.

Police said the two attend Kach-run camps and are known to regularly harass Arabs and other minorities in the Old City.

Man sent to jail for drunk driving

A Tel Aviv man was sentenced to four months' imprisonment, given a six-month suspended sentence, and fined NIS 1,000 by the Tel Aviv Traffic Court for causing an accident while driving under the influence of alcohol.

Nikolai Bistrov had entered an intersection without any consideration for the traffic, and hit three other cars. No one was hurt. He was found to have six times as much alcohol in his blood as permitted by law.

Judge Efraim Doron also suspended Bistrov's license for two years.

Two of the big Lotto winners collect earnings

Another two of the five big prize winners in last week's Lotto draw collected NIS 3.4 million each yesterday.

The first winner who arrived is a 43-year-old man from the North, who is married and has three children. He said he invested NIS 14 in the draw, and would put the money in a trust fund for his children.

The second winner is a 32-year-old single man from the Tel Aviv area. He won with an eight-number ticket in which he filled out the birthdays of his family members. He said he is afraid that too many women will want to marry him now.

Winning cards

In yesterday's Mifal Hapayis daily Chance card draw, the lucky cards were the nine of spades, ace of hearts, jack of diamonds, and ace of clubs.

Secular cemetery will be set up in Beersheba

Jerusalem Post Staff

LAND near the Beersheba Cemetery will be allocated for a secular cemetery, the ministerial committee for alternate burial, headed by Justice Minister David Liba'i, decided yesterday. The committee was established after the government's December 1993 decision to establish alternate cemeteries.

The decision, the Absorption Ministry spokesman said, should solve the problem of a shortage of burial space in the Negev for those, mainly new immigrants, who are not recognized as Jews.

The committee also adopted several recommendations by Absorption Minister Yair Tzaban, among them that within 30 days, criteria be submitted for selecting the groups that will operate the alternate cemeteries be submitted, and for the nature of the burial in these cemeteries.

This was a response to a November 1994 High Court decision ordering Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, then acting religious affairs minister, to explain why no burial site had yet been issued to the Menucha Nechona burial society, as the court had ordered in 1992. The Reform and Conservative movements had joined Menucha Nechona in its petition.

The panel stressed that allocating land in Beersheba is only the first step, and that other cemeteries would be established in Jerusalem, Haifa, and the central region.



Prisons Service Commissioner Arye Bibi (left) and MK Taleb a-Sanaa (center) visit Hasharon Prison yesterday. During the visit, Bibi told reporters that former MK Yair Levy was not getting special treatment. (Ailon Ron/Israel Sun)

Shahal orders probe of prisoner rehab schemes

RAINE MARCUS

POLICE Minister Moshe Shahal has ordered police comptroller Alex Ish-Shalom to examine the conditions given prisoners participating in the Prisons Service rehabilitation scheme, following allegations that former MK Yair Levy received preferential treatment in Ma'asiyahu Prison.

Shahal met Prisons Service Commissioner Arye Bibi yesterday afternoon to discuss the allegations, following investigative reports of Levy's activities by Ha'aretz and Yediot Aharonot. The papers claimed that Levy, serving a four-year sentence for

embezzlement, was not observing the terms of his rehabilitation scheme, spending much of the time he was supposed to be working at home.

On Friday, Ha'aretz described Levy's activities last Wednesday, from the time he left the jail at 6:15 a.m. until 9 p.m., when he was supposed to return to prison. A team of Ha'aretz reporters and photographers saw him go home, to the synagogue and on a trip round the streets of Bnei Brak, instead of working at a ye-

shiva as per the terms of his rehabilitation program.

On Thursday, after the prison service was asked by the daily for its reaction, the spokesman released a statement saying that Levy would be suspended from the program. The spokesman denied that the suspension was a result of Ha'aretz report.

Then, yesterday, another report appeared in Yediot, apparently the result of investigation done in January, which stated that Levy spent most of his time

at home instead of working at the yeshiva.

Last night, Bibi was still saying that Levy is treated "just like any other prisoner."

Some 370 inmates nationwide participate in the rehabilitation program, he added, leaving jail in the morning for work and returning at night. Over the past six months, 22 prisoners have been ousted from the program.

According to Bibi, Levy's movements were checked by Prisons Service officials once every two weeks.

"Minister Shahal has ordered an examination into the supervision of rehabilitation prisoners," he said. "If anyone is found guilty of negligence, including wardens, he will be punished accordingly."

Tomorrow, the rehabilitation program committee is expected to convene to decide whether to permanently oust Levy from the program.

Police ask Russia to extradite former policeman believed behind plot to kill Russians here

RAINE MARCUS

ARIK Birman, a debt collector and former policeman who fled to Russia four years ago, met with private investigator Amir Ben-Asher twice in the last two months in Europe to plot the murder of three Russian businessmen here, The Jerusalem Post learned yesterday.

Tel Aviv's detective squad, headed by Supt. Moti Avidan, has requested Birman's extradition, for allegedly plotting to kill Moshe Haimov, Anton Malevsky and Michael Charny, who police say are members of the Russian mafia.

As reported exclusively by the Post on Friday, Ben-Asher, who was remanded last Thursday together with private investigator Ya'acov Bak, worked as a debt collector for

Birman recently, collecting money from members of the Russian mafia here.

Ben-Asher allegedly met Birman in Switzerland and England to discuss details of the plot, for which he was to receive around \$100,000, plus a bonus for additional murders.

Birman fled Israel in 1991 to escape trial for fraud and violence offenses. But police here believe he did not work alone and was hired by another man, higher up in the Russian mafia hierarchy. Police in Russia are still searching for Birman, who may have fled that country.

Bak, a reserve lieutenant-colonel, and Ben-

Asher, a reserve major in the IDF intelligence corps, allegedly hired a known criminal to carry out the murders, equipping him with a gun, silencer and giving him photographs of the potential victims.

But the man, whose name has been banned from publication, decided to turn state's witness in return for closing other files pending against him.

Ben-Asher and Bak were arrested last September for their alleged connection to the media wiretapping case. Although this case is totally unrelated, police believe that the two may now provide information on who ordered the budding of former Yediot Aharonot editor Dov Yuckovsky's phone before he moved to Ma'ariv.

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Haredim, builder reach compromise on Jaffa site

HERB KEINON

A WEALTHY Belgian diamond dealer yesterday brokered a temporary compromise between haredim protesting construction on a Jaffa site-claiming it is an ancient Jewish cemetery, and the Ilan Gat company, which is building the apartment complex.

According to the compromise, Ilan Gat agreed to stop work for 10 days to give the sides an opportunity to come up with a solution that would meet the needs of both sides. During this cooling-off period, the haredim will be able to collect bones at the site.

Haredim claim that bones unearthed at the site prove that the area was an ancient Jewish cemetery, while Antiquities Authority officials have variously claimed the bones discovered there are

those of animals or non-Jews.

Udi Ilan, one of the owners of Ilan Gat, said that the diamond dealer has invested with his company abroad, and that it was through him that the temporary compromise was reached. Ilan said that now it looks like the "chances are good" for an overall compromise at the site.

Eda Haredit activist Yehuda Meshi-Zehav said that haredim are not trying to stop construction. "There is no problem building over a cemetery if it is done according to halacha," he said.

Meshi-Zehav said he feels the compromise is a result of the pressure the haredi community has been applying over the last two months to stop work on the site.

The Israel Electric Corporation advises consumers that

ON PURIM

Thursday, March 16, all its offices (except those in Jerusalem) will be closed to the public.

In the Jerusalem area (including Ariel and Beit Shemesh) the Corporation's offices will be open as usual.

Consumers (other than those in the Jerusalem area) required to pay their electricity bills at the Corporation's offices (and not at a bank) can do so on Friday, March 17.

Jerusalem area consumers who are required to pay their electricity bills at the Corporation's offices (and not at a bank) can do so on Sunday, March 19.

All services necessary for the maintenance of the current supply, and to repair faults will operate as usual.

The Israel Electric Corporation and its Staff wish all the House of Israel Purim Sameach!

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More California flooding forecast

SAN FRANCISCO (Reuters) - New flooding was forecast for central California yesterday as the state reeled from storms which have killed at least seven people, inundated several towns and driven thousands from their homes.

Another five people were reported missing after at least three cars plunged into raging flood waters which swept away a bridge on a busy California freeway.

A series of powerful Pacific storms has created havoc throughout California, hitting many areas only just recovering from devastating floods in January.

The storms caused mudslides and flooded motorways in southern California, flooded hundreds of homes and businesses in several northern California communities and brought down trees and power lines, leaving 50,000 people without power.

Thirty-four of California's 58 counties declared local states of emergency due to the storms.

A spokesman for the California Office of Emergency Services said damage was "easily" in the millions of dollars, although the state had not yet estimated losses.

The cost of repairing washed-out bridges and damaged roads would be high, officials said. January's storms caused at least \$1.3 billion of damage and led President Bill Clinton to declare much of the state a major disaster area.

The National Weather Service warned there could yet be record flooding along the Salinas River in central California, affecting Salinas and Spreckels.

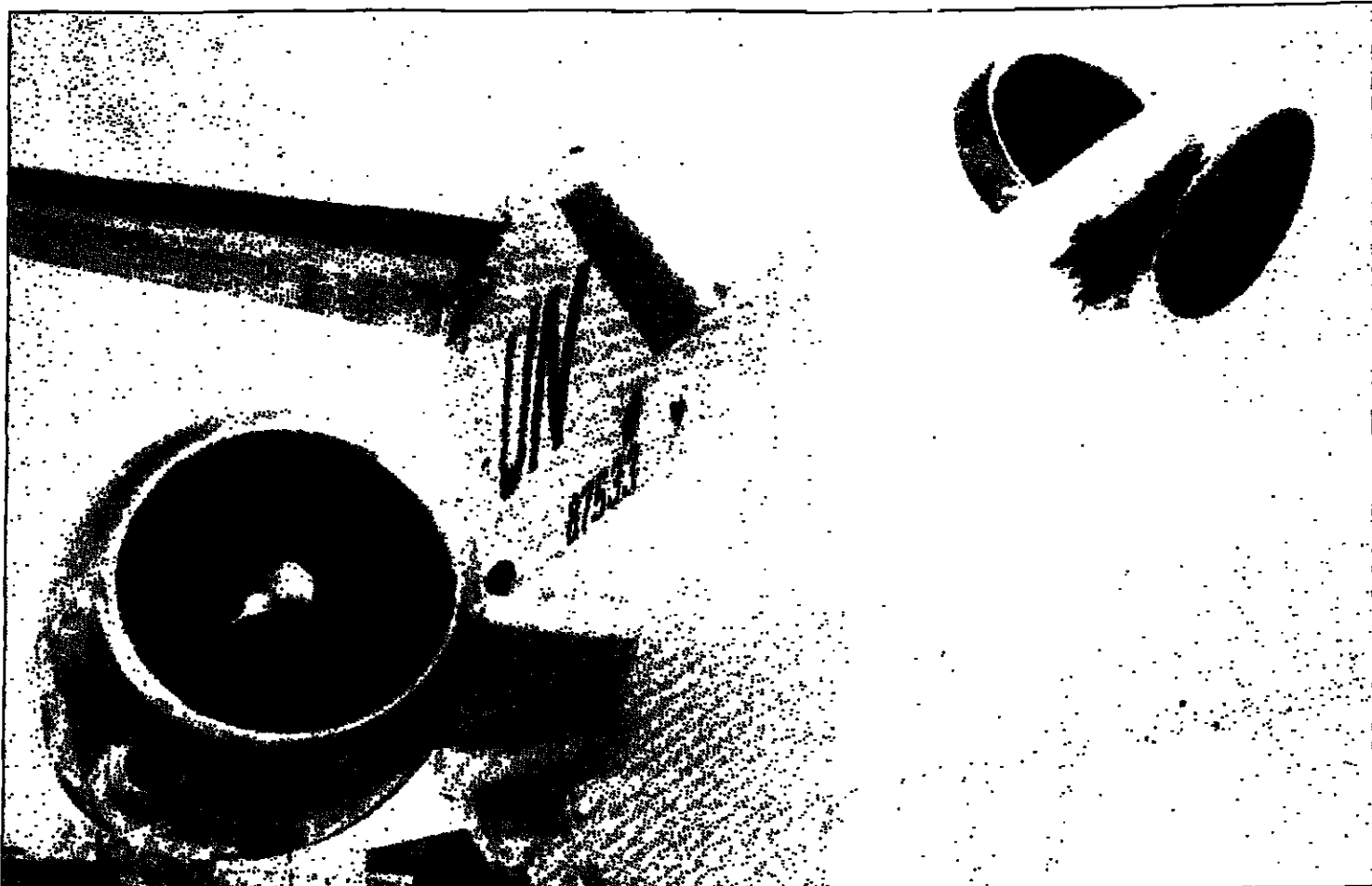
Sinn Fein leader arrives in US

NEW YORK (AP) - The leader of the IRA's political wing arrived in the US yesterday for a fund-raising trip that will include a White House meeting with President Clinton.

"This St. Patrick's Day will be one which will be celebrated at a time of great hope, and where there's a potential and a possibility of building a real peace," Sinn Fein leader Gerry Adams said at John F. Kennedy Airport.

British authorities have criticized Clinton's decision to meet with Adams and to allow him to raise money for Sinn Fein in the US. It will be the first official meeting between an IRA ally and an American president.

"The British response has been perplexing and begrudging," Adams said. "Elements seem to see this as a victory for Sinn Fein and a defeat for the British. This is not the way the trip should be looked upon. A peace process won't be advanced by keeping scores."



The plane carrying UN envoy Yasushi Akashi was hit by at least one bullet at Sarajevo airport yesterday. (AP)

UN envoy's plane hit by gunfire

A bullet hit a plane carrying UN envoy Yasushi Akashi and his two top generals, piercing the fuselage and narrowly missing a passenger's head as the aircraft landed in Sarajevo yesterday, the United Nations said.

No one was injured by the single small-arms round but it was the most serious attack on senior UN peacekeeping officials in nearly three years of war in Bosnia.

Aboard the jet were Yasushi Akashi, the UN special envoy for former Yugoslavia, and Lieutenant-Generals Bernard Janvier and Rupert Smith, UN military commanders for all of former Yugoslavia and Bosnia respectively.

The shooting occurred as Akashi, Janvier and Smith arrived on an urgent mission to salvage Bosnia's fraying cease-fire in talks with the Muslim-led government and its separatist Serb foes.

UN sources present at the airport as Akashi landed said at least three shots were fired and seemed to have come from Bosnian Serb positions south and east of the runway.

The Serbs' Sarajevo-area army corps denied responsibility. "An impartial analysis of

News agencies
SARAJEVO

the incident will show where the bullets came from," it said in a statement carried by the Bosnian Serb news agency SRNA.

A UN spokesman described the shooting as "outrageous".

Akashi vowed he would not be cowed by warring factions.

"I don't know who did it but nobody can intimidate me with this kind of thing," said Akashi, special representative of the UN secretary-general. "I'm rather insensitive to these matters."

NATO warplanes thundered over the airport afterwards in a display of strength, dropping chaff and firing flares to confuse any anti-aircraft missiles in the area on the front lines between government troops and the Serbs.

A bullet hole was clearly visible on the right side of the plane just behind the rear window.

A passenger on the charter aircraft, who asked not to be named, said the bullet hit with an audible thud and came within 35 cm of the

head of a French UN officer.

"Some people hit the floor of the aircraft when the round struck," the passenger said.

In Copenhagen, at the UN summit on world poverty, the president of Croatia meanwhile agreed to let a scaled-down UN peacekeeping force remain as a buffer between his troops and Serb fighters.

The announcement reduced fears that the Balkans were on the verge of erupting into fighting even more bloody than the last 3 1/2 years of war.

President Franjo Tudjman previously had said the 12,000-man UN force would have to leave once its mandate expired at the end of March. But he said yesterday that he envisions about 5,000 staying after a new mandate is worked out with the UN Security Council.

The troops' duties and redeployment were still up to negotiations between Croatia and the United Nations, Tudjman said. He said there was no deadline for a new agreement, "but we hope it could be in the near future."

Tudjman made his announcement in a joint news conference with Vice President Al Gore.

Student militia driven out of Afghan capital

KABUL (AP) - Government troops forced a new student militia out of Kabul's southern suburbs yesterday after almost a week of fighting that has killed or wounded nearly 1,000 people.

Presidential troops were reported to be advancing on the headquarters of the student fighters at Charasyab, 25 km south of Kabul.

Government fighter jets flew overhead yesterday as ground forces fired hundreds of rounds of artillery and mortar fire at retreating Taliban fighters, Afghanistan's newest Islamic fighting force of former religious students.

Rabbani was quoted by Pakistan Television as saying the Taliban had been pushed nearly 15 km outside the capital.

The United Nations, which is trying to forge a peace plan for Kabul, has called for an immediate end to the fighting.

"The (UN) secretary general is deeply concerned by the recent upsurge in fighting in Afghanistan... which has caused many civilian casualties," said a UN statement released yesterday in Pakistan.

At least 1,000 people - mostly civilians - have been wounded or killed in the latest assault on Ka-

bul, which began last Monday. There was a brief calm last Thursday but fighting resumed on Saturday.

Dead bodies were still lying on the road in the devastated Karte Se suburb of Kabul, witnesses said.

Yesterday, a nurse at Karte Se Hospital, Sakhi Shatik, said they had treated 106 patients for shrapnel and gunshot wounds in the past 24 hours. The hospital has treated 670 patients since last Monday, he said.

Until now, the Taliban had met little resistance on its march toward the capital from the south-

ern city of Kandahar, where it first appeared about six months ago.

Previously, the Taliban also said they had no interest in taking power. But now, they are demanding President Burhanuddin Rabbani step down and turn over power to them.

Rabbani has refused. The latest fighting appears to have eroded a United Nations peace plan that called for the establishment of a neutral multi-party council.

According to the plan, Rabbani is to step down on March 21. Few people expect he will.

Setback for India's Congress in poll

NEW DELHI (Reuters) - India's ruling Congress party suffered setbacks in two western strongholds while making gains in the east, according to partial results yesterday in crucial state polls before national elections next year.

Congress trailed an alliance linking two right-wing Hindu parties in Maharashtra, the nation's most industrialized state - a traditional stronghold for the party which has ruled India for all but three years since 1947.

Prime Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao's party appeared certain to lose its hold over the neighboring western state of Gujarat to the Hindu nationalist Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), its main national rival.

"There is an anti-establishment wave," Congress spokesman Vithal Gadgil told Reuters.

In the eastern Orissa state, however, Congress appeared to score an upset win over Janata Dal, which romped to victory in 1990. Initial results in Maharashtra put Congress, the BJP and the Hindu chauvinist Shiv Sena party neck and neck.

The combined Hindu parties looked certain to emerge as the biggest political force, but they could fall short of an absolute majority.

Congress could end up with the greatest number of seats of any party, giving it a technical claim to rule the state.

The three big states were among six involved in the current round of state polls which is the biggest electoral test for the reformist Rao before general elections due by mid-1996.

Dissent has grown within Congress since it suffered setbacks in three of four states that held elec-

tions late last year, including two southern pillars.

Those defeats emboldened Congress rebel Arjun Singh, Rao's main rival, who after quitting the cabinet in December has toured the country rallying support.

The BJP, the main opposition in the federal parliament, called for snap general elections by October.

"The rejection of the Congress is a clear verdict against the Narasimha Rao government and his party," BJP general secretary Krishan Lal Sharma said.

Political analysts said Rao, whose party enjoys an absolute majority in parliament, would be able to resist early polls, but he could come under pressure to step aside as party leader.

"This leaves the party president in a weaker position," Pran Chopra of the Center for Policy Research said.

In Madras, a wedding party of Indian peasants aboard a tractor-trailer was burned alive yesterday in a fiery collision with a bus and a chemical tanker that claimed nearly 50 lives, authorities said.

A further 15 people suffered serious burns as the tanker exploded in flames, spraying burning benzene over its victims, police said.

First reports, from local news agencies and police in the area, spoke of 120 deaths in the inferno.

"We heard a terrific bang and saw a pall of black smoke and rushed to the main road," said Sundaramurthy a farmer from the village of Sendamangalam.

"As we went near, we heard men, women and children screaming but we could do nothing."

US-Cuba clash at summit

COPENHAGEN (Reuters) - The United States and Cuba clashed over market economics at the UN social summit yesterday, setting out contrasting visions of how the world can best tackle poverty and unemployment.

But on the last day of the week-long gathering, all 120 countries represented in Copenhagen were set to approve a declaration and an action plan to ward off social explosion as the world moves into the 21st century.

Vice President Al Gore, insisting that Washington would maintain foreign aid despite pressures from the new Congress to cut it, said the United States believed free markets alone could guarantee permanent economic advance around the globe.

"In our view, only the market system unlocks a higher fraction of the human potential than any other form of economic organization, and has the demonstrated potential to create broadly distributed new wealth," he declared.

But Cuba's President Fidel Castro, casting aside his usual ol-

ive-green fatigues for a dark business suit and matching tie, said there could be no social development "where chaos and anarchy reign under the blind and savage laws of the market."

The "neo-liberal doctrine" being imposed on the world since the fall of Soviet communism, he said, "sacrifices shamelessly in the under-developed countries spending on health, education, culture, sport, social security, cheap housing and other basic needs."

The conference, the Summit for Social Development, has been told that there are more than one billion people living in poverty around the world and 120 million - well over one third of the global work force - unemployed or under-employed.

Speakers from both developed and developing countries have warned that unless these people are given some hope for a better future, disaster lay ahead.

"The widening gap between rich and poor is more explosive than ideological differences," President Daniel arap Moi of Kenya said.

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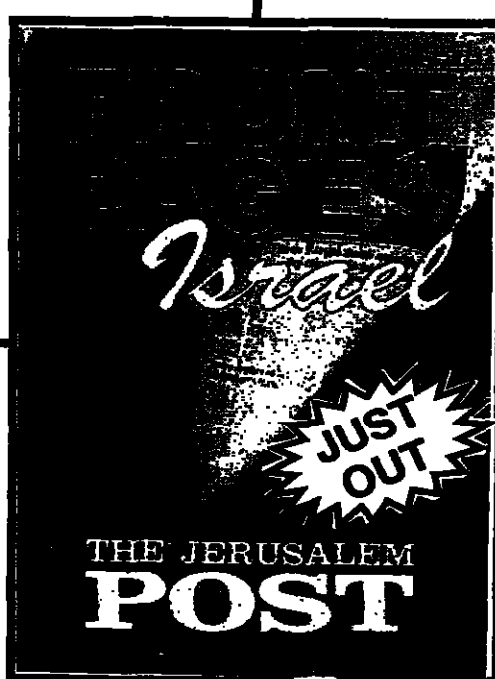
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Second Announcement

The last date for submitting bids has been postponed to 12 noon on June 1, 1995. Bidders with a proven record in designing and constructing sea water desalination projects of at least 2000 cu. m. per day will be eligible to participate in the bid.

The page detailing the above changes will be attached to the bid documents and will constitute an integral part of the documents.

In addition to the site inspection tour which will be held on March 27, 1995, a second tour will take place at 10 a.m. on April 10, 1995 at the Mekoroth Sabha site near Eilat. Please contact Menahem Priel or Nissim Nadav of the Desalination and Special Projects Unit, Tel. 03-6230607, Fax. 03-6230684, during working hours for clarification of any queries.

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DeLay a delight to violinist whiz kids

HER name is Dorothy, she's from Kansas and she left home in search of wizards - violin wizards.

Dorothy DeLay - whose students have included the likes of Itzhak Perlman, Midori, Shlomo Mintz, Nigel Kennedy and, most recently, Sarah Chang - is perhaps the most famous and successful violin teacher around.

She has spent the last 50 years devoted to teaching, and has her own institute within the Juilliard School of Music in New York.

Today, as part of her first visit here in a decade, DeLay will give a master class at the Jerusalem Music Center (10 a.m. to 2 p.m.).

Like her students, DeLay wasn't born playing the violin. "I played at the piano from the moment I could sit on the stool. At three I started playing the violin, and a year later my mother got me a sixteenth-size violin."

During her teens, DeLay

was never a teacher. "Both my parents were teachers, and I said I'll never do it. Yet one day, quite by accident, I fell into it and I was hooked. It was lots of fun."

At the Dorothy DeLay Institute "there are six of us, and we carry quite a great number of students. I myself teach 40 hours a week." This means seeing about 40 out of the 130 students who attend the institute.

Teaching is a very special art form, DeLay asserts. "It's necessary to understand how the learning process works, and you must stay within that format and never ask something that doesn't fit into the process. It's necessary to always ask for something that a

student can do successfully so that they can gain some feeling of self-respect and confidence. You have to carefully prepare a specific plan for each and every student."

Perlman was DeLay's first superstar student. She can never really know what the future will hold for any given student, but what she can see is potential.

"When I first heard Perlman, I at once realized the enormous talent. I'd never really heard anything like him before."

The huge number of talented Jewish or Asian violinists, says DeLay, can be credited to family structure.

"In these families, kids have just tremendous support. They

MICHAEL AJZENSTADT

have a mother at home taking care of them. Western kids with two working parents simply cannot have that kind of support.

"A child who plays very well has a parent who did a very good job, a parent who invested his life in this, and they deserve a lot of credit."

In her teaching in New York and at master classes all over the world, DeLay is on a constant search not just for the superstar violinists of the future but also for good violin teachers. A great soloist does not necessarily make the best teacher, she suggests.

"A good teacher has to listen and not to think about himself as

a soloist, because if you do that you forget what the student needs. A teacher has to be there for the sake of the student."

DeLay's own students have commented that she is much more than a teacher to them, almost like a second mother and a friend. "I don't think you can separate the two - music is part of life," she says.

Part of that role involves consulting her students and their parents about concert attire.

"Getting a girl out of her blue jeans on stage is not easy, and it's important to dress appropriately," she says. "Ultimately, you have to leave it to them to decide, but at the beginning it's good to advise them."

"I told Nadja [Salerno-Sonnenberg] that I realized she wouldn't feel comfortable in a gown, and that she would end up wearing a tailored pant suit or a jacket, which suits her perfectly. And that is what she does."

Not all her students go on to performing careers, and DeLay has no hard feelings when someone with first-rate potential decides to change direction.

"I have a feeling each person has to follow his own dreams and desires. Some of my students went on to become doctors or lawyers, and they all played very well."

DeLay tries to keep in touch with all her past, and present stu-

dents' activities. In her current visit here, for example, she is accompanying 14-year-old Sarah Chang, who is making her debut with the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra.

A student's success is not always measured on the international circuit. "Israeli violinist Erez Ofar just called me saying that he was appointed concertmaster of the Philadelphia Orchestra. That made me extremely happy."

Out of the 225 young children who applied for a place in DeLay's institute at Juilliard next year, only 20 were accepted.

What does it take to be accepted?

"Considerable previous training, playing the standard concerti at a certain level and then I just look for intelligence, humor and enthusiasm, all of which are very important."

Hardly an affair to remember

FILM REVIEW

ADINA HOFFMAN

LOVE AFFAIR

Directed by Glenn Gordon Caron. Screenplay by Robert Towne and Warren Beatty. Based on the movie *Love Affair* by Delmer Daves and Donald Ogden Stewart. Hebrew title: *Yotz Shet Ahava*. English dialogue, Hebrew subtitles. Parental guidance suggested.

Mike Gambrell Warren Beatty
Terry McKay Annette Bening
Garry Katharine Hepburn
Kip DeMay Gary Shandling

If the outline of *Love Affair* sounds vaguely familiar, it could be that you've forded these weepy waters before. The 1939 version starred Charles Boyer and Irene Dunne as the other-wise-occupied strangers who meet once, fall in love, and agree to break their respective engagements and rendezvous several months later atop the Empire State Building.

In Nora Ephron's *Sleepless in Seattle*, Meg Ryan and her best girlfriend sobbed in moony union when they watch a late-night rerun of the 1957 version. *An Affair to Remember*, with Deborah Kerr and Cary Grant as the lovers. Later, Ryan and Tom Hanks arrange to meet on the highest floor of that same skyscraper - a quantity derivative choice of locale that summed up with ironic grace the symbiotic relation between "actual" romance and the movies.

No such irony is present in the latest rendition of *Love Affair* which, for all its cautious attempts at sophisticated humor, takes this chaste old chestnut of a plot just as seriously as it does the task of tidying its stars' skin tone. Real-life husband and wife Warren Beatty and Annette Bening both appear here behind an impressive array of flattering filters and gels.

This discreet lighting plan probably has less to do with the fact that Warren and Annette are starting to blotch (hardly) than it does with the hide-and-seek relation this movie bears to the actors' own lives.

The off-screen love affair between Hollywood's most notorious ladies' man and the no-nonsense beauty who famously tamed him and has now given birth to his two children seems the true inspiration for - or selling point of - this film.

In the movie, Beatty plays an ex-star quarterback and aging playboy who has "never been faithful to anyone," and Bening is the down-to-earth jungle singer and kindergarten teacher with whom he flirts on an airplane, dances on an ocean liner, and fixes a midtown tryst.

It's at once deliciously provocative and a bit unsettling to think that we're witnessing these two pretty people reenact their private passion. Presumably it was the notion of this voyeuristic kick that Beatty, co-writer Robert Towne and director Glenn Gordon Caron hoped would propel the movie.

That kick never comes. Like Beatty himself, the picture is just too smooth, too aware of its own handsomeness to give in to such raw revelation - though it certainly is handsome. In her crisp suits and soft evening gowns, Bening spends most of her time looking as adorably content as a cat licking milk from her paws, while Beatty is, as always, dashing.

The film's shipboard sections shift with sparkling ambers, golds and ivories as if shot through a backlit champagne glass, and the few scenes that take place around



Warren Beatty and Annette Bening's personal lives seem to be a main selling point of this overly smooth romance. (David James)

the dormant volcanoes and lush paddies of a Pacific island are doused in an almost impossibly deep Shangri-La jade.

But in the end, this stylish cinematography seems little more than an attractive decoy: It wraps the Beatty-Benings in a lovely layer of gauze and lets us think we've glimpsed them naked. The experience is hardly intimate. Far be it for me to judge the couple's at-home chemistry. On-screen, however, the banter between them sounds forced and coy, telegraphed in the cagey way that intimates talk when they know someone's eavesdropping.

Which we are! Scriptwriters Towne and Beatty aren't stupid, after all, and in one of two in-

stances they do manage a fair simulation of the dry repartee that gave zip to the classic romances. It is, though, only a simulation, and the feeling that results is something like infatuation without the butterflies.

Along with the staid back-and-forth, we're also treated to long stretches of tedious preening (Beatty nobly ditching a sports broadcasting career to coach junior college football and paint Tahitian landscapes; Bening singing "The Farmer in the Dell" with a roomful of underprivileged children). And the film's ending is so hyperbolically sugary that just thinking about it now makes my back teeth ache.

The one truly poignant ele-

ment of *Love Affair* slips shockingly through the cracks of the film's too-tasteful scheme, when a wizened Katharine Hepburn appears in a cameo as Beatty's eccentric Aunt Ginny. With her wild gray hair, lopsided lipstick and very advanced palsy, there's a risen-from-the-grave quality to the great actress here. Hepburn is, in fact, still alive, but her screen self - brash, leggy, and athletically refined - passed away long ago.

Though it's annoying that the filmmakers have assigned her the part of Our Lady of the Old-Fashioned Pedigree, she handles her canonization quite well. If anything, Hepburn's strong, wrinkled presence in *Love Affair*

serves as a resounding retort to the rest of the film's skin-deep elegance.

IF THERE is one thing I regret about my job, it's that I have little time to ruminate over the movies I see or the articles I write. While deadlines do create associative spontaneity and a great adrenal rush, they also sometimes make for mistakes in choice of image, word or rhetorical tack.

Recently, I made a mistake when I carelessly compared Jodie Foster's Nell to a Down Syndrome sufferer. I deeply rue the analogy and, belated as it may be at this point, apologize to anyone who was offended.

Having a ball, Old World-style

MICHAEL AJZENSTADT

Gabi Sadeh, whose international career has been flourishing.

The three will perform an Italian opera concert with excerpts from works by Verdi, Rossini and Puccini as well as some Neapolitan songs.

Yeruhm Shcharovsky leads the Israel Symphony Orchestra Rishon LeZion in both the artistic part of the evening and the dancing at the end.

While tickets, at NIS 350, are not cheap, the money is for a

good cause. All singers are donating their services and proceeds go toward extending the NIO's youth activities, including enabling youngsters to attend opera performances at reduced prices.

The first ever Israeli Opera Ball takes place at the TAPAC on Saturday at 8:30.



Based on writings of Eugenia Ginzburg, 'Into the Whirlwind' is dedicated to those who suffered at the hand of Stalin.

'Whirlwind' from Russia hopes to take us by storm

MICHAEL AJZENSTADT

GALENA Volchek, artistic director of the Sovremennik (Contemporary) Theater of Moscow, wants to speak our language.

"I don't want the halls to be full of Russian people when we come here," says Volchek, ahead of her company's tour here next week. "I want every Israeli who likes theater to see our work."

Simultaneous Hebrew translation will be available for the Russian-language productions of *Into the Whirlwind*, based on the writing of Eugenia Ginzburg, and an Israeli play, Yosef Bar-Yosef's *Anashim Kashim* ("Difficult People").

The tour has been a long time in the making. A year ago Volchek and managing director Leonid Erman came here to finalize what they believed were the last details of a tour featuring the two aforementioned productions and Chekhov's *Three Sisters*.

But financial difficulties in Russia and a cool response from local theater-directors nearly put the entire tour in jeopardy.

Eventually financing was guaranteed through a private Russian donor and the Gasher Theater agreed to host the company. *Three Sisters* got lost in the process.

Into the Whirlwind, dedicated by the company to the victims of Stalin, takes place in several women's prisons all over Russia. It follows the life story of Ginzburg who was born in Moscow in 1904 and arrested in 1937. Her diaries, written through 18 years of imprisonment, are the basis of the play.

The premiere of *Into the Whirlwind* in 1989 was turned into an international event with critics from all over the world commenting on the company's brave attempt "to recreate the gruesomeness and insanity of the camps."

Dressed in a pink suit and wearing heavy eyeglasses, Volchek speaks in fluent English: "This play deals with a very Russian problem but suddenly I realized it's universal. It is also very real for us. One of the members of our cast was actually in prison with Ginzburg for 17 years."

The Sovremennik's repertoire is an eclectic mix of about 20 plays. In addition to Russian plays are Ibsen's *The Ghosts*, Miller's *Incident at Vichy* and Albee's *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?*, in which Volchek plays Martha.

"You don't have to be American to understand Albee's plays. You just have to be human," she says.

Volchek is not sure how the Israeli play will fare with local audiences. "I'm sure it will be the least successful," she hesitantly suggests, even though "in Moscow people liked it very much."

will be repeated the following day. The play will also be staged at the Haifa Theater on March 22.

Difficult People appears at the Haifa Theater on March 20, at the Sherover Theater in Jerusalem on March 21 and at the Gasher Theater March 23 and 25.

On October 13th, 1988, four thousand people were witness at the fortress of Masada to the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra conducted by Zubin Mehta performing Mahler's 2nd Symphony - *The Resurrection*, and Paul Ben-Haim's Fanfare to Israel.

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"Beautifully directed by Ilan Ronen"
JERUSALEM POST

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مكرا من الأصل

Peekaboo

Somewhere in the Picture There Is a President

By TODD S. PURDUM

HE still has the planes, helicopters, codes, and enormous powers of life and death. His merest word can still move markets, if not mountains, and lately he has even begun to pick some fights.

But in the wintry weeks since the Republicans took control of Congress, Bill Clinton has also been struggling to master a new national role: President as goalie, parrying the pucks that come skittling down Pennsylvania Avenue from Newt Gingrich.

Nowadays, the House Speaker's morning news conferences produce most of the words to watch, their texts transcribed by the wire services with an alacrity more often reserved for presidential pronouncements. And Mr. Clinton looks a bit like a

**Being upstaged in the
early acts of a drama
isn't always so bad.**

president in a parliamentary democracy in which the prime minister has the real power.

On Friday, Mr. Clinton took time to appear in the White House briefing room at 9:45 A.M., breaking into early-morning CNN airtime in vote-rich California to brag about a three-tenths of one percentage point decline in the February unemployment rate (and gamely heralding his own impending presence to reporters with the disembodied loud-speaker advisory normally delivered by an aide).

Taking On The Contract

The President can easily cause a stir, particularly on foreign policy, as he did last week by allowing Gerry Adams, the political leader of the Irish Republican Army, to make his first fund-raising tour of the United States. But even when Mr. Clinton addresses an issue he helped elevate to national prominence, he tends to acknowledge the pre-eminence of the prevailing Republican oratory by inverting it.

"I'm glad the Republicans chose to make welfare reform part of their Contract for America," he told the National Association of Counties last week, slightly mangling the rival manifesto that

his aides mock as the Contract on America. "It's always been part of my contract with America."

A few months out of the spotlight are not all bad for a President who suffered from overexposure for much of his first two years, and who can now hope to let the Republicans squabble, or stumble, at center stage as they face the prospect of cutting popular programs or fail to deliver on campaign promises during their first 100 days and beyond.

Avoiding the V-Word

"We're not trying to compete with them on everything and drown them out," said the White House spokesman, Michael D. McCurry. "You have to use your bully pulpit very effectively, particularly because there's a competing microphone in town. That happens to be not only the reality we confront, but also a great opportunity."

The White House staff is also relieved to have an open fight against clearly defined opponents, instead of suffering under the yoke of balky Democratic Congressional barons who sometimes made the President's life nearly as miserable.

In recent weeks, Mr. Clinton has vowed to oppose or veto many proposals, from cuts in school lunch and national service programs to incursions on his foreign policy powers, from changes in liability law to efforts to reshape the provision in last year's crime bill providing Federal money to hire new police officers in the nation's cities.

And he scored at least one victory, even if he was unwilling to seek it very aggressively or publicly: defeat of the balanced budget amendment in the Senate by a single vote.

Indeed, Mr. Clinton is hoping that the Senate, with its majestic pace and arcane protections of minority-party rights, will be his sword and his shield, cutting down the harshest of the House's cuts and deflecting others.

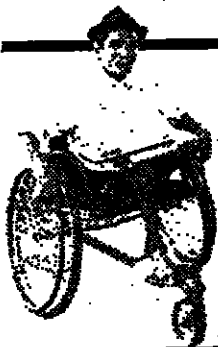
"I do think the Republicans ran on change in '94," he got elected on it, "are seen right now to be pushing for change and they've got the spotlight," the President's chief pollster, Stanley B. Greenberg, said last week. "But we're going to enter a period where you need the President's signature or you're going to have a President's veto."

Harry S. Truman, a Clinton idol and the last Democratic President to face re-election with Republicans in control of Congress, played the strategy of "Just Say No" to the hilt, railing against the "do-nothing 80th Congress" at every opportunity.

But with the current crop of Republicans all too clearly "do-somethings," Mr. Greenberg says there are grave dangers for Mr. Clinton if he is

Continued on Page 4

Moments before a news conference last December, as the Republican-dominated Congress was getting ready to convene, President Clinton stood at the window of the Oval Office of the White House.

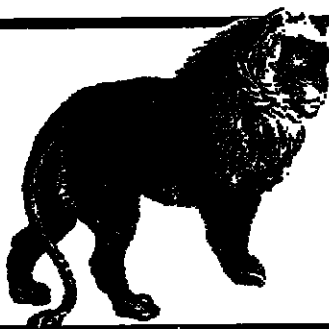


The Cambodia Question How to help a crippled nation.

By Philip Shenon **2**

Cable Connections Markets were wired long ago.

By Keith
Bradsher **4**



Losing Marbles Museums: truth, grace and booty.

By Alan Riding **2**



Why the U.N. Became the World's Fair

By BARBARA CROSSETTE

THEY turned on the lights at the Tivoli Gardens last week and it wasn't even spring. Copenhagen wanted the 20,000 people attending the first World Summit for Social Development to get a glimpse of its most famous park, even if that meant bundling up against the cold. Tivoli's 100,000 twinkling colored lights added the right carnival atmosphere to the traveling United Nations global road show — fresh from appearances in Cairo, Vienna and Rio. Barely six months from now, the caravan moves on to Beijing for the fourth international conference on women. Then it's Istanbul and Habitat II in 1996.

In its 50th anniversary year, the United Nations and its Secretary General seem to be spending a lot of time and money away from home. The basic work product is the same: incremental agreements, offering something more than platitudes but something less than action. But amid the pomp and comedy of the traveling show something happens that is rare at the home office: national leaders get involved, if

briefly, with the gritty details of economic, environmental and personal misery.

The bill for Copenhagen's Social Summit will be something between \$30 million and \$60 million. At least in Copenhagen the sensible Danes, who are bearing a lot of the cost, eschewed luxury. The Bella Center, an exhibition hall better appointed and scaled for fork-lift trucks than diplomats, was par-

tioned into spartan offices — though public spaces were graced with pots of spring flowers, budding trees and a Tuborg beer kiosk around every corner. There was at least one metaphorical foot-stamping session high in the United Nations bureaucracy (where they know all about protocol) when it appeared that heads of state, not a few of them crowned, might have to sit on chairs

without armrests.

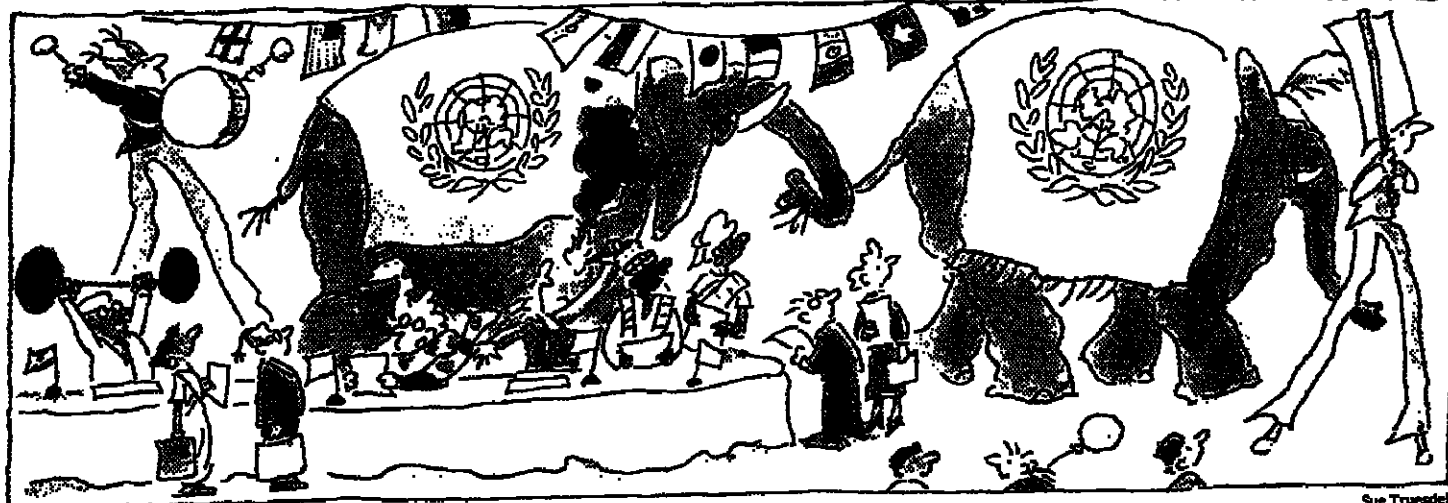
The United Nations is on the road in part because it doesn't get enough attention in New York. Secretary General Boutros Boutros-Ghali said as much in an interview last week. "Between New York and Washington, we are passing through a terrible crisis of credibility of the United Nations," he said. "In all the United States you have total

indifference, or a kind of negative indifference. But outside the United States we are able to obtain the presence of 120 countries for a subject which is quite complicated. The fact that we have 120 heads of state here to discuss it is such a success. It means support for the United Nations. It means that they believe in the United Nations, they trust the United Nations."

Perhaps the penchant for summits and international conferences also relates to the reality that getting anything done in the United Nations these days requires bumping up attendance to the level of people to whom other people pay attention.

Hit the Road, Jacques

And so this global parliament on wheels and wings, complete with migrating flocks of staff, lobbyists from big businesses and small bands of advocates, is all but replacing the General Assembly as a forum for issues of international importance. In the cottage industry of books on United Nations reform appearing in this anniversary year, it is hard to find an expert with much good to



Sue Truesdell

Continued on page 2

The World

Cambodia Can't Shake The Legacy of Madness

By PHILIP SHENON

WHAT passes for an insane asylum in the desolate Cambodian village of Banteay Dek is one more squalid bit of evidence of this nation's agony. The village clinic has set aside a small wooden shed with a dirt floor and three urine-stained mattresses to house the mentally ill until they get better — or until it is clear that they will never get better.

Saung Bunly had to be chained to his bed for several weeks last year after he kept trying to hurt himself, usually by slamming his head into the wall. "They took the chains off because I am not violent anymore, but I am still crazy," said the 35-year-old patient, who was perched on the edge of his cot, rocking frantically back and forth, his eyes ablaze. "And I am crazy because of the Khmer Rouge." In this rare lucid moment, he recalled that "sometimes the Khmer Rouge would hurt me, hit me again and again. There was no food. I still have nightmares that Pol Pot will return."

Twenty years ago next month, the black-clad child soldiers of the Khmer Rouge pulled their trademark checked scarves loosely around their necks and marched into Phnom Penh, the Cambodian capital, and launched a Maoist-inspired peasant revolution that would leave more than one million Cambodians dead, including almost everyone who had the talent or training to run this small country.

An Asian Trusteeship

If the Khmer Rouge leader Pol Pot wanted a legacy, he surely has it: a nation still so shattered by his crimes that Cambodia today seems incapable of governing itself, so traumatized that much of the outside world wonders if Cambodia can ever again succeed as a fully independent nation.

"As an Asian and as a humanitarian, I am embarrassed that we have allowed the Cambodian problem to fester," said an Asian diplomat stationed in Phnom Penh. "I think you will hear more and more about the possibility of Cambodia's neighbors stepping in — doing something — if things deteriorate further."

After spending more than \$2 billion on a peacekeeping operation that in 1993 produced the first free elections in Cambodia's history, the United Nations clearly does not have the money or the inclination to return to Cambodia in force.

But a small group of Asian diplomats has quietly proposed the creation of an all-Asian trusteeship for Cambodia, in which friendly Southeast Asian nations would dispatch advisers here to oversee Cambodia's economic and political development, and possibly even take a role in commanding the country's military, which is still locked in battle with the Khmer Rouge. After Pol Pot and his forces were ousted in 1979 in a Vietnamese invasion, they returned to the jungle as insurgents. The Vietnamese would likely be notable by their absence from the trusteeship, given the fury felt by Cambodians over their country's occupation by Vietnam from 1979 until 1989.

Cambodia is only one entry on the sorry list of nations — Bosnia, Rwanda and Somalia obvious among them — that seem incapable of holding themselves together peacefully without outside intervention.

But Cambodia has suffered in special ways. No country in the 20th century lost such a sizable proportion of its population in such a short period — depending on the estimate, between one-eighth and one-third of Cambodians vanished — and perhaps no country has so suddenly been stripped of an entire generation of people with education and ability.

Among the "enemies of the revolution" singled out for liquidation by Pol Pot in the 1970's were educators and bankers, economists and engineers, writers and monks — the very people who might have been able to help rebuild the country after Pol Pot's reign of terror was ended.

Many of the people left to run the Government are corrupt and uneducated, their credentials consisting of their willingness to use

violence unsparingly. Many of Cambodia's senior leaders are Khmer Rouge defectors who, while they may have renounced the ideology of Pol Pot, still make use of his savage tactics.

There is other evidence of Pol Pot's legacy, especially in the glazed eyes of so many of the civilians who survived the Khmer Rouge years. Any visitor who spends much time in Cambodia knows that a large portion of the population is psychologically scarred from the Pol Pot era. Mental illness is rampant, and so is the violence that it often produces.

"It's a traumatized country," said Chantal Rodier, a Canadian psychologist who has been working here for two years for Children of Cambodia, a charity group. "Because of the Khmer Rouge, these people became less than animals. They lost the power to conduct their own lives. And it will take a long time to overcome this — several generations."

She said that Cambodian children born long after the Khmer Rouge were overthrown were not spared the trauma of that era, since their parents — whose own childhoods were devastated by the Khmer Rouge — seemed inept at raising the next generation.

"I won't say that Cambodian parents don't love their children, but children don't receive the affection they need," she said. "The parents have no role models for how to raise children."

The mental illness she described is on grim display in the village clinic at Banteay Dek, about 20 miles east of Phnom Penh, where attendants trained in traditional Khmer medicine try as best they can to deal with mentally ill patients who are often violent. The treatment, such as it is, involves extracts of tree bark and plants — and the use of shackles.

The clinic's administrator, Siem Vy, 58, said the troubles of virtually all of her psychiatric patients could be traced back to the years of Pol Pot. "When they come to the hospital, they usually cry, 'the Khmer Rouge killed all my family,' and sometimes they will cry like that all night," she said. "One woman knocked the wall with her head. She kept crying. 'Why do you kill my family? Why, why?'"

Mrs. Siem Vy, who has worked in village hospitals for decades, said that mental illness was rare in Cambodia before the Khmer Rouge era. "We were a peaceful country then," she said. "But after Pol Pot tried to destroy Cambodia, these terrible psychiatric problems are common. And we know that the Khmer Rouge are completely responsible for this."



Cambodia inherits the wind: a resident of a Phnom Penh asylum.



The British Museum shows off the Elgin Marbles. Greece wants them back.

Museums and the Spoils of War

Are Finders Keepers?

By ALAN RIDING

IT is hardly coincidence that the museums of the most powerful nations have the best collections of international art. Enriched by the spoils of war, colonial occupations and freelance plundering, these collections are, to put it bluntly, monuments to the maxim that might is right. But all this grabbing took place generations, even centuries, ago. So is it still relevant how these collections were formed?

Even before the Romans took their pick of Greek statues, art was treated as war booty. Throughout Europe's turbulent history, art works regularly changed hands through armed conflict or political domination. And from the 19th century, the Europeans began bringing Asian, African and Latin American treasures into their museums — to save them, it was claimed, from destruction.

Increasingly, however, "victim" countries are refusing to view history as a closed book. Greece has long demanded the return of the Elgin Marbles, the 253 sculptures from the Parthenon that are in the British Museum. Turkey, China, Cambodia, Nigeria, Mali and Bangladesh say their cultural heritage was ransacked. Mexicans lament that the feathered headdress of the Aztec Emperor Moctezuma is in a Vienna museum.

"For Turkey, the point of departure is that pieces should be returned to their country of origin," said Ahmed Ulker, a Turkish diplomat at Unesco, the United Nations cultural body that promotes restitution of unique art treasures. "Of course, we don't want to empty Western museums. But, as a matter of principle, art works exported illegally should be returned."

The Debate's Not Abstract

Now a dramatic new chapter has opened in the perennial debate. Russia has announced that it has been holding important works that it seized from Nazi Germany at the end of World War II. And it is showing some of them in two new exhibitions, one of 63 works, including paintings by El Greco and Goya, that opened at the Pushkin Museum of Fine Art in Moscow on Feb. 27, and another of 74 paintings, mainly Impressionist and Post-Impressionist, that opens at the Hermitage Museum in St. Petersburg on March 25.

The problem is that Germany wants the paintings back, along with some 200,000 other museum pieces, two million antique books and two miles of historic archives. To make matters even more awkward for Russia, Germany is no longer a weak, defeated nation. It has given post-Communist Russia more than \$50 billion in aid and it would like some thanks. Germany also claims a legal basis for demanding restitution — a 1907 international convention and a bilateral cultural agreement signed in 1992.

"The objects taken from Germany should be shown to the world as part of the heritage of mankind," Klaus Goldmann, a senior curator at the German Museum of History in Berlin, said. "But, as a curator, I believe everything taken during and after the war should be returned to their museums and castles."

Russia and Germany met about the dispute last year and again last week, and agreed to resume talks in June. Culture Minister Yevgeny Sidorov of Russia offered to return a collection of drawings. Still, no settlement satisfactory to Germany is in sight. And in Russia, nationalist sentiment in favor of keeping the spoils of war has been steadily growing.

Further complicating the case, the Red Army grabbed not only German state property, but private collections the Nazis stole from Jews. Some works at the Pushkin are believed to have belonged to Hungarian Jews; some of the Pushkin's German drawings may be from the collection of a Dutch banker. These too, the Germans argue, must be returned to their "rightful owners" — if their heirs can be found.

The Soviets never disclosed the existence of their

cache, as if unsure of their right to consider it reparations for the vast damage that the invading German Army wreaked on the Soviet Union's museums and treasures. But with the collapse of Communism, the Hermitage and then the Pushkin admitted holding the art. They were not keen to return it. Soviet troops saved these art works," Irina A. Antonova, the Pushkin's curator, said, "while the fascists wrecked ours."

So, in this case, will international law or historic precedent win out? International conventions adopted in 1954 and 1970 state clearly that, in times of war, art works should not be destroyed and, if expropriated, should be returned. And at least one country has recently complied. Iraq was forced to return what it took from Kuwait's museums in 1990.

But history points the other way. The Prado Museum's collection of works by Bruegel and Rubens is a result of Spain's occupation of the Netherlands in the 17th century. And if many Western museums sympathize with Russia today, it is because they, too, wish to protect their art works of dubious origin.

"Legitimacy is a factor of time," Philippe de Montebello, the director of the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York, said during a visit to Paris last week. He would not define at what point possession becomes ownership, but his general approach was unambiguous. "History is unfair," he went on, "but it always has been. Must every historical cycle be undone? Anyway, all these questions are based on the presumption of national patrimony and I believe in the shared patrimony of mankind."

The Metropolitan is not among museums that have profited directly from wars. But that is not the only issue. Many foreign treasures now housed in American and European museums were not seized by force, but were collected by colonial administrators or by archaeologists and explorers who sold or donated them to their national museums.

Is there a moral difference between spoils of war and art acquired through corruption or intimidation or simple theft? Western curators say most of the treasures they took were buried or abandoned. In the early 19th century, British, French and German collectors brought home myriad art objects from Greece, Turkey and Egypt. Today, what they did might be called looting. But, as Lord Elgin argued when he returned with his booty, the Acropolis was being used as a garrison by Turkish occupation forces who were using the Greek statues for target practice.

Drawing the Line

Jean-Paul Desroches, the chief curator at the Guimet Museum of Asian art in Paris, said British and French explorers saved valuable Buddhist manuscripts from ruin early this century "at a time that China was incapable of managing its patrimony." British experts say the famous Benin bronzes were rescued only because the British seized them in the 19th century. "Many countries have shown interest in their heritage only after it was promoted and admired in distant capitals," Mr. de Montebello said.

Perhaps the strongest argument against restitution is, where do you draw the line? The new international agreements requiring the return of stolen property are important because traffic in looted art is bigger than ever. But if Germany recovers the so-called Priam's Gold collection from Russia, should it return the gold to its country of origin, Turkey? Should France surrender art seized by Napoleon's armies? "Most of it was returned," a spokeswoman at the Louvre said defensively. When was that? "In 1815."

The dispute between Russia and Germany seems unlikely to be quietly forgotten, but compromise may eventually be possible. Experts at Unesco are proposing that Russia exchange some of the paintings it holds for funding and technical assistance for Russian museums. Until there is a solution, though, these art works will remain prisoners of history, unable to tour the world without risk of being seized.

Why the U.N. Became the World's Fair

Continued from page 1

say about the assembly, now that it has been largely orphaned with the death of big-power rivalry.

Except for a few frantic weeks each fall when world leaders line up to speak from its podium, the General Assembly is a somnolent place where speeches from delegates with no power waft over empty seats. Here in Copenhagen there were packed press conferences every half hour on the margins of the Social Summit. In New York, energy crackles around the 15-member Security Council, which now drives the United Nations system, to the annoyance of many of the 185 member nations whose delegates never get inside its doors. The council has no time for fuzzy issues of economic and social change; it is preoccupied with peacekeeping and sanctions.

"High among the changes that should mark the 50th anniversary of the U.N. is the revitalization of the General Assembly as a forum of the world's states," says the most authoritative of the new books advocating change, "Our Global Neighborhood," a report by a panel of international leaders, the Commission on Global Governance. The commission also recommends establishing an Economic Security Council to take on the new problems of the world economy, now that many countries are painfully shifting to the free market,

along with issues like trade and unemployment. Such a council might also be useful, its proponents say, in overseeing the World Bank and International Monetary Fund, which have replaced the United States as the prime target of attack by the developing world because of their power over national policies.

But as anyone who has spent any time in United Nations headquarters knows, any reform is very far away. So the world gets summits.

Really Bazaar

Or one long summit. "We should not take this conference as such per se," said the Secretary General. "There is a series of conferences, a continuum. And this continuum is important."

When the journey that began in 1992 in Rio de Janeiro with the Earth Summit finally ends in Istanbul in June 1996 with a gathering on the world's overcrowded cities, the United Nations will have considered human rights (Vienna, 1993), population (Cairo, 1994) and women's rights (Beijing, September, 1995). Together, these meetings — not all strictly summits (meaning intended for heads of state) — will have taken a kaleidoscopic look at the human condition on the eve of the new century. In theory, the aim is to encourage national policy changes, over which the United Nations

has little influence, to meet new problems.

The Social Summit was not only necessary but overdue, says Denmark's Prime Minister, Poul Nyrup Rasmussen, when critics ask him: What's the point? Danish newspapers have been unsparing this week, using words like "charade" and "flop" to describe events. "Why are we here?" asked Mr. Rasmussen, a Social Democrat. "We are here to discuss the heart of all political work: to try to make better daily lives for millions and millions of people. We are here because it is a fact of life for politics that no nation now can solve all its problems in economics and welfare alone."

Yogesh Varhade agrees, though he did not get a chance to tell the Prime Minister. In worn shoes and a thin suit, pulling a case of documents on luggage wheels behind him, he walked the carpeted corridors of the conference center and the chilly, muddy byways of the N.G.O. Forum, a parallel meeting of nongovernmental organizations several miles away.

There, in an atmosphere that is half bazaar and half Speaker's Corner, thousands like him, on too tight a budget to buy lunch at Danish prices, have set up booths or found corners to distribute homemade tracts and pamphlets alerting those more powerful to the injustices they feel.

Mr. Varhade, a technician who lives in Canada, was born an untouchable in India. All last week — while

Zapatistas and the Bangladeshi writer Taslima Nasrin were getting a lot of attention, he was politely nagging one powerful delegation after another, asking for a few minutes to talk about the quarter of a billion people he says live in misery in his homeland. He got credentials to the N.G.O. Forum — and thus access to the summit site — as the president of the Ambedkar Center for Justice and Peace, named for Bhimrao Ambedkar, an untouchable who wrote India's constitution.

Reach Out, Touch an Untouchable

There were down days when nobody would listen to Mr. Varhade. "And they call it a summit on social development," he complained. "I don't understand. But there were days when he scored, and got to shake a famous hand or two and leave behind a message. His goal in life is to put outcasts on some important person's agenda, and only at a free-form event like this does he feel he gets a shot. He would never get to penetrate the bureaucracy at United Nations headquarters."

Coming to the Social Summit, he said, has put him in touch with many people like him who are beginning to form a loose network of the global neediest, a new lobby. "I may not win this year," he said. "But someday I will."

Return
Saigon
Tet 1999

By Robert S. ...

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مركز التحصيل

The World

In Russia, Success Isn't Such a Popular Idea

By STEVEN ERLANGER

MOSCOW — In the Moscow daily Nezavisimaya Gazeta, there is a list every month of Russia's most influential businessmen and women. But while American tycoons might kill to be listed in the Forbes 400, many Russian tycoons try to keep their names off the Nezavisimaya list. They can be killed for being on it.

In the new Russia, success can be not only an ambiguous blessing but an actual danger.

The gangland hit carried out on the television executive and personality Vladislav Listyev stunned Russia. But the shock was more than just a response to crime, or to the death of a "god of the hearth," a personality who seemed like a friend to viewers.

Mourners expressed shock at the lurid recklessness of the crime this month and the sheer vulnerability of someone so famous. They were struck again by the inability of even the successful to control their lives.

In the development of a true market economy, already rocky in Russia, that is a deeply worrying psychological trend.

The greatest victory of August 1991 — when Russians beat back the attempted coup against Mikhail S. Gorbachev, and Boris N. Yeltsin emerged at the head of democrats and modernizers — was the sense that ordinary people had finally seized some control over their destiny. It was a noted triumph of Russians over their own passive past.

Such feelings persist and grow, especially in the young, but for those much past 45, the confidence has been short-lived. First, it was built on a myth — in fact most Russians did nothing to stop the coup, which

nearly succeeded. Second, and more important, political and economic mismanagement of reform have made Russia's path away from 70 years of repression more tortuous than it might have been.

Even in strictly economic terms, the last, wasted year has been deeply dispiriting. In August 1994, inflation was down to 4 percent a month, the ruble was stable, investment was flowing, privatization was working, the new stock market was buoyant, hard currency was flowing back into the country, the budget deficit was being largely covered by treasury bills.

Then the Government of Mr. Yeltsin and Prime Minister Viktor S. Chernomyrdin, the same Government that today promises monetary and fiscal rectitude, blew the budget on huge subsidies to agriculture, industry and many other sectors. An autumn of bingeing led to a flight of dollars, a collapsing ruble, a stagnant stock market and much-reduced investment. In January alone, the inflation rate was 17.8 percent.

Any optimism among those laid off or working short shifts quickly died. Corruption, of course, continued, along with the usual apparatchik capitalism. And those foolish enough to have invested their rubles last summer in anything other than short-term ventures or the dollar once more lost a lot.

Not only was a sense of confidence broken, but again there has been a kind of collective paranoia, a sense of dark forces at work, whether Western plotters or criminal ones.

The disappointment is evident in a large opinion poll done by the European Union, involving interviews with nearly 19,000 people in 18 east European countries. Two of every three people in the fast-improving, former socialist economies of east and central Europe think the development of the free market, "largely free from state control," is the right path for their countries.

Not for Us

In Russia, however, two-thirds of respondents believe that the free-market, small-state idea is wrong for Russia, and only 22 percent think it is right. Support for the market dropped 25 percent since the same poll a year earlier.

In the meantime, Russian television pumps out glitzy advertisements for the good life, including a big



Success has downsides in Russia, where many, like the elderly Moscow woman at right, are suffering.

dose of imported goods. While the advertisers are hardly crazy, and the number of "middle class" Russians is increasing, average Russians remain poor in a country where poverty is no longer a virtue, and in looking around them, they feel poorer than before.

Hostility toward the rich remains strong; the ideology of good socialist egalitarianism was preached fairly convincingly, after all, for 70 years. Of course the party bosses lived well, but they did so discreetly.

So success, in its modern vulgarity and show, is seen as evil by many, especially in a society where the gap is so wide. As a big Volvo or Mercedes Benz flashes along the pitted streets, splashing mud onto the proletariat, few Russians think, as an American might: great car, must be a rich guy, or a good businessman. Here, the immediate reaction is: that criminal!

And often he, or she, is. Or started out that way. Not

only because the nomenklatura could help themselves to the old state's assets. But also because many business dealings considered perfectly normal in the West, like selling at a profit, used to be criminal — and many Russians feel they still ought to be.

So success not only displays hubris, it becomes a kind of curse. As with Mr. Listyev, or even Vladimir Gusinsky, the very rich banker who owns a newspaper and a television station in Russia, success seems not to bring security or safety, only trouble.

Mr. Gusinsky, in criticizing the attack on Chechnya and supporting the popular Moscow Mayor, Yuri Luzhkov, has crossed powerful Yeltsin loyalists. So despite his huge wealth and many bodyguards, Mr. Gusinsky finds it safer to stay abroad just now.

In Russia, at least, he's simply been too successful for his own good.

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SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY

Ideas & Trends

Back to the Thrilling Trades of Yesteryear

By KEITH BRADSHAW

WASHINGTON
THE laying of the first trans-Atlantic telegraph cable in 1866 did not just allow people to send last-minute birthday greetings or pleas for cash. The cable let them move money from New York to London and back in a few minutes, instead of waiting for steamships to make the 12-day crossing.

More than a century later, communications are only slightly faster but governments are still struggling to cope with the problems that have accompanied the high-speed international financial deals that the cable made possible. These deals have, in the last few weeks, swamped the dollar, sunk the Mexican peso, wrecked a 232-year-old British bank and pushed the Clinton Administration to propose lifting Depression-era American banking regulations.

Capitalist Tools

The swift transactions permitted by the undersea cable helped generate a surge of worldwide financial and economic ties that peaked on the eve of World War I. Two world wars, the Great Depression and the massive confiscation of foreign investments that accompanied the rise of Communism and the decline of colonialism all combined to reverse the trend for several decades. But during the 1970's, most controls on the movement of money across national borders were phased out. Capitalism is once again tying more and more countries more and more tightly together.

"To a significant extent, the industrialized nations of the world only recently regained the levels of economic integration that they had reached at the eve of World War I," said Alan S. Blinder, the vice chairman of the Federal Reserve, in a speech last week. "And a great deal of what we have been witnessing since 1950 is simply getting the world back to the level of integration that had been achieved in 1914."

Yet the financial ties of today are still a pale shadow of the links that spanned the globe at the start of this century. The billions of dollars that now slosh from country to country at the touch of a button are not as

big — compared to the size of the economies involved — as the immense flow of money among countries before 1914, Mr. Blinder noted.

Massive Japanese investments in everything from air-conditioner factories in Malaysia to car assembly lines in Tennessee are overshadowed by the scale of British overseas investment a century ago. During the four decades preceding World War I, The British invested a quarter of their savings overseas, mainly in railroads and mines in their colonies and in the United States. By contrast, Japanese companies and individuals created fears here that they

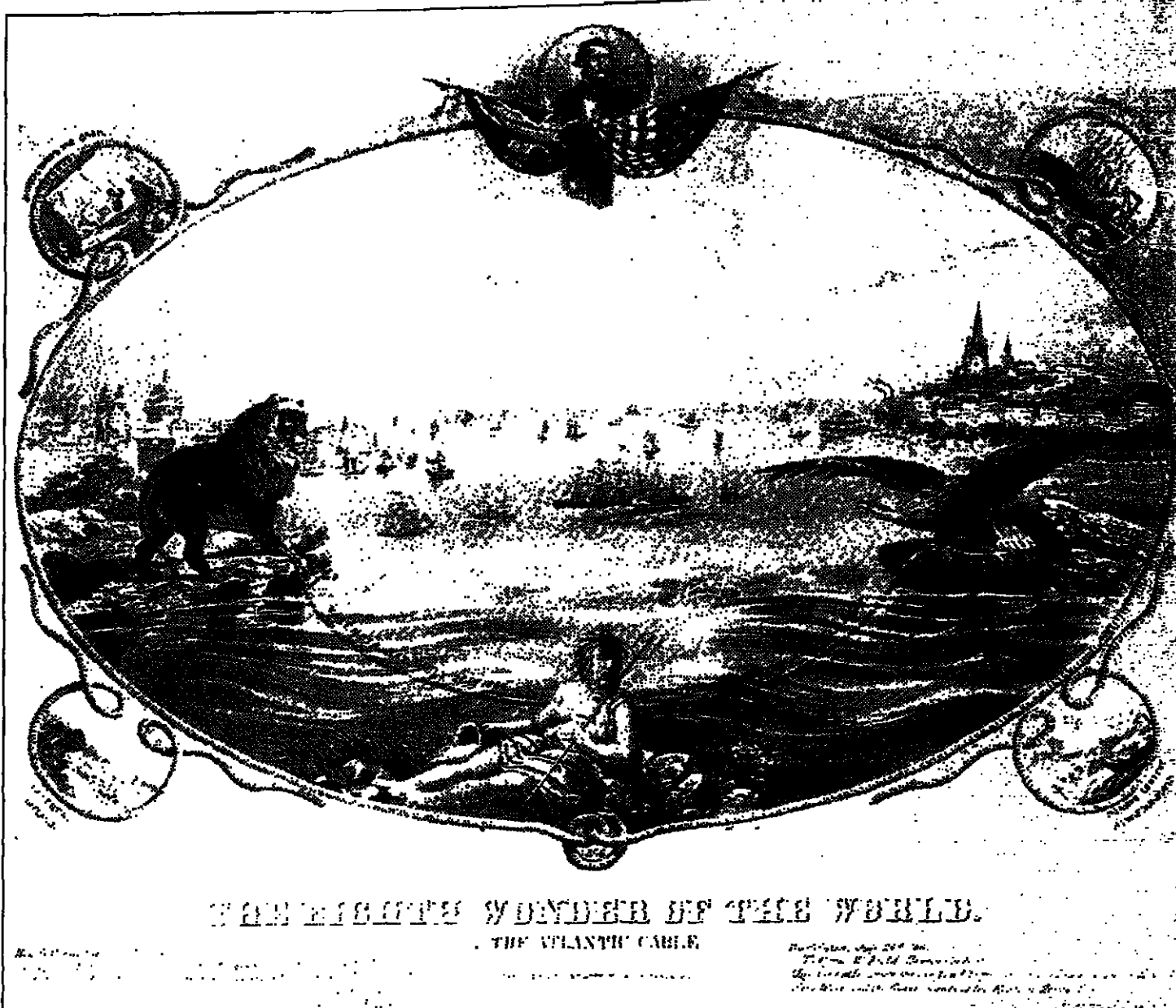
A century ago, even more money spanned the globe.

were "buying America," when they invested 10 percent of their savings outside Japan during the 1890's. Japan's foreign investment has slowed since then.

Last month Treasury Secretary Robert E. Rubin called for legislation permitting American commercial banks, securities firms and insurance companies to merge with each other and with foreign financial companies. The goal is to make this country's financial companies more competitive in the world. Such alliances were common before World War I, when currencies were converted easily into gold, enabling big financial institutions to move money among banking, securities and industrial ventures worldwide.

Two weeks ago Barings P.L.C., the 232-year-old British investment bank, failed because of poor bets in Singapore on the direction of the Japanese stock market. Yet in 1890 the Bank of England had to rescue Barings after a wrong bet on the prices of bonds in Argentina. And Singapore is 152 miles closer to London than Argentina is.

The remarkably steep decline of Mexico's currency and economy in the last several months, after foreign investors pulled out their money in response to its chronic trade



An engraving commemorates the completion of the trans-Atlantic telegraph cable, which picked up the pace of global investment.

deficits and political instability, has parallels in the 1870's. Then, it was the United States that depended on foreign investment money, particularly funds to construct transcontinental railroads.

The collapse of the biggest American investment bank, J. Cooke & Company, in 1873 stopped British bankers from investing in this country. Railroad construction, which had employed a tenth of the American non-farm work force, almost ground to a halt during the six-year recession that followed.

Déjà Vu, Again

The dollar ran into trouble in the early 1890's when many wealthy Americans,

frightened by a surge of populism, transferred their money to London. President Grover Cleveland rescued the dollar party by raising interest rates — a strategy that Alan Greenspan hinted at on Wednesday.

To be sure, computerization accelerated international financial dealings somewhat since the days of telegraph cables. And when markets move especially swiftly, governments find it hard to respond.

"The markets move so fast that you can't fly everybody to Washington fast enough to solve the problem," said Barry Eichengreen, an economics professor at the University of California at Berkeley.

A broader question is whether close economic and financial ties make countries less

likely to fight wars.

Lawrence Summers, the Under Secretary of the Treasury for International Affairs, contended in a speech early this month that such ties were the best way to avoid conflict. "I think you will find that successful economic growth and economic integration is the best way mankind has yet found to produce stability," he said.

While many political scientists and economists agree, the argument is familiar. A British author, Sir Norman Angell, wrote early in this century that the economies of Europe's great powers had become so interdependent that war was impossible.

His book appeared in 1910, four years before World War I broke out.

Somewhere There's a President

Continued from page 1

seen as defending the status quo, as George Bush appeared to be doing against a Democratic Congress. Since the 1992 campaign, Mr. Clinton's poll numbers have consistently been highest when he is perceived as moving ahead; when he seems stuck, lingering doubts about his character come to the fore.

"I think the President has a very strong interest in legislation passing," Mr. Greenberg said. "I don't believe he benefits over the long term by gridlock. I think they have to find ways of passing welfare reform and other kinds of measures that enable the President at the end of his four years to say that the country, under this Administration, moved forward."

Giving In, Not Giving Up

That helps explain Mr. Clinton's reluctance to use the V-word too often. The other risk, though, is that unless he makes his own priorities unflinchingly clear through constant repetition, he will be seen as too ready to compromise, one of the presumed faults that has dogged his entire career.

"I think it's very important for the President to strike a clear course, particularly on New Democrat ideas like welfare reform and national service," said Al From, the executive director of the moderate Democratic Leadership Council, which Mr. Clinton helped start as Governor of Arkansas. "I'd really like to see him step up. The President has one of the best ideas out there in his plan for worker retraining, and he ought to be out hammering that every day."

In fact, Mr. Clinton took to the road with his plan for a "Middle Class Bill of Rights" of tax breaks for education and vouchers for worker training, but has had trouble winning attention for an initiative that even one White House aide mocked as "McBOR."

It's not that the President has fallen from sight entirely. A study by S. Robert Lichter of the Center for Media and the Public Interest, a research group, found that after last November's elections, Mr. Gingrich and the Senate Republican leader, Bob Dole, combined, got a few more sound bites on nightly network television news than Mr. Clinton. The President's words were still featured a respectable 15.7 times a week through the end of the year, compared to 20 in the first 10 months of 1994.

"But he's so much more reactive when he is visible that he is much diminished," Mr. Lichter said of the President. "It's another case of living and dying by the media. When Clinton came in, he got much heavier coverage than George Bush, in part because he personalized his Presidency to such a great degree. And now he's not the dominant personality in Washington."

The Rise of Incentive Trusts

Six Feet Under and Overbearing

By J. PETER ZANE

SOMETIMES, life imitates bad art. B-movies, to be exact — like "Easy Money," "Brewster's Millions" and "Billy Madison" — where the willful old millionaire forces his prodigal heirs to shape up before they can cash out his fortune.

In the real world such humiliating scenarios have been rare. Until now. During the last five years the wealthy have quietly seized upon a little-used variant of a venerable legal device as a way of shaping life after death. "There's much more interest in controlling things from the grave," says William P. LaPiana, a professor of trusts and estates at New York Law School. "They can't take it with them, but they won't let go."

Lawyers call the device an "incentive trust," though bribe is a dead-on synonym for this modern version of the Golden Rule: He who has the gold makes the rules. Some benefactors use them as a form of cloning, rewarding heirs who go to the same schools, study the same subjects or enter the same profession as they did — and cutting out those who won't march in step. Others use them to impose values. They try to make the dissolute thrifty by matching their savings, teach the selfish generosity by underwriting philanthropy and transform playboys into homebodies by tying their inheritance to marriage.

"It's not coercion but an act of love," says Roy M. Adams, a partner at the Chicago-based law firm Schiff Hardin & Waite. "It's an effort to bring out the best in people."

The concept of trusts dates back to the 13th century, when Franciscan friars went to England. They were not allowed to own property, so they had devotees donate land

Some wealthy benefactors find you can't take it with you, but you can sure leave strings attached.

to third parties — the first "trustees" — to hold for the monks' use. More recently, wealthy families like the Rockefellers, Kennedys and Mellons have used common trusts to avoid taxes. Often they provide a check against reckless, spendthrift youth. Typically, a trustee manages the bulk of the estate until the heirs reach, say, their 25th birthday. Mr. Adams said incentive trusts, a type of trust that provides greater specificity and control, are becoming popular because the wealthy are increasingly

beset by the same problems as less affluent Americans: divorce, drugs, alcohol, crime and a permissive culture are eroding their parental control. Estate planning, he says, provides them a last chance to build character.

Mr. Adams would not identify any of his clients — after all, one's name should appear in the papers only twice — but he said the parents of an alcoholic had him construct a trust that ties their son's inheritance to his sobriety. An Ohio woman whose son is a beach bum in Hawaii linked his inheritance to the gross income on his W-2 form. And a multi-millionaire in the Pacific Northwest had Mr. Adams write a trust that withholds payments to heirs "unless they have attained sufficient wisdom and character to use it wisely."

Who's to tell? Upon his death, disbursements will be authorized by an advisory council, which can demand proof of assets and liabilities, bank statements, school records, employment history, medical records and blood tests. For those who won't play: no pay.

John Train, whose New York investment firm specializes in counseling rich families, says rash restrictions are sometimes necessary to prevent free-wheeling heirs from becoming "feckless parasites." "Excess wealth is a fatal disincentive to a productive life," he says. "Just as a boat will shake itself to pieces in a calm rather than a high wind, a listless child is almost certain to be unhappy."

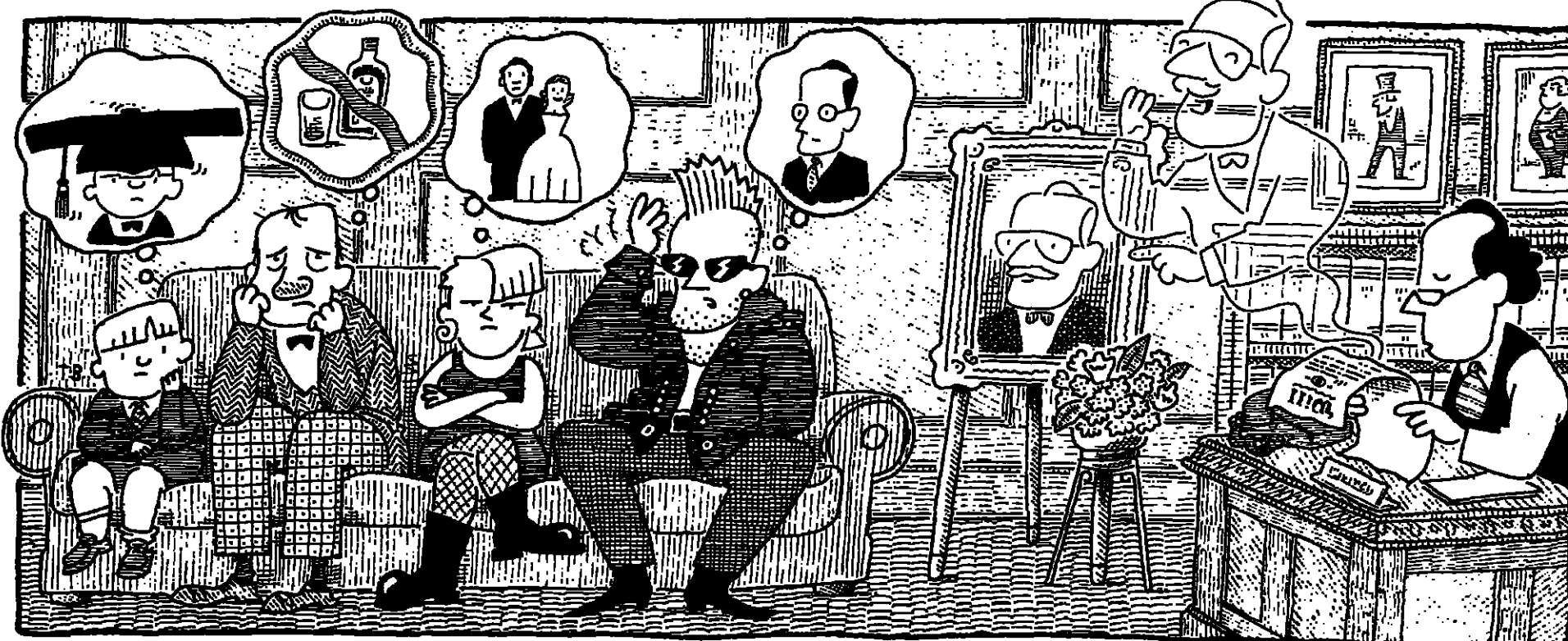
John L. Levy, a consultant on inherited wealth in Mill Valley, Calif., agrees that incentive trusts suggest that not all is ship-shape with the well-off. But he thinks they say more about the moral vacuum of the benefactors than the shortcomings of heirs.

"What kind of values do you have if you think money can cure everyone's problems?" he says. "What kind of lesson are you teaching by paying people to have certain goals, to live a certain way?"

Instead of teaching life lessons, Mr. Levy says, they tell their heirs they are not to be trusted, a message unlikely to build moral fiber. And the controlling attitude that pushes some to erect incentive trusts is often the cause of the very problems they are meant to address.

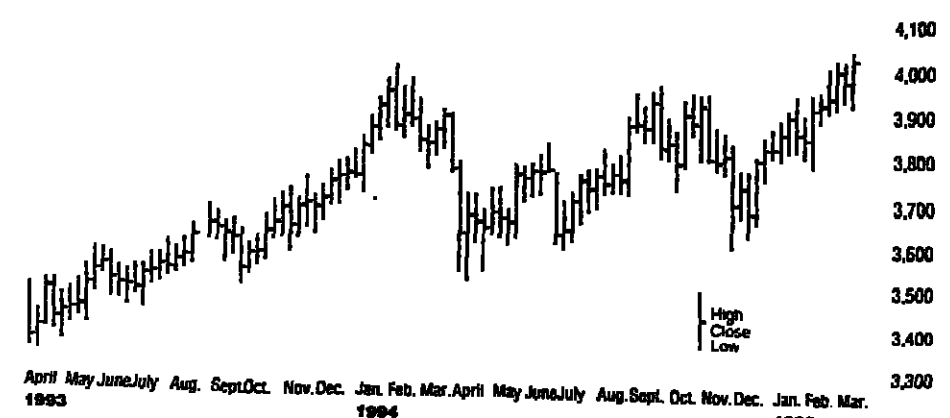
"Rather than spending their time constructing these elaborate trusts," he says, "they should try to heal any breaches while they're still alive. But that would involve admitting their own errors, which is probably not first on their to-do list."

And of course, the living can usually concoct schemes to outsmart the dead. Mr. Train recalled the saga of Tommy Manville, playboy heir to the Johns-Manville fortune. To prod him to settle down, according to Mr. Train, Mr. Manville's trust guaranteed him \$250,000 when he married. "So he married 13 times," Mr. Train says. "He'd pay the woman \$50,000, pocket \$200,000, get a quickie divorce and then, when he needed more money, he'd get married again."



The Stock Markets Last Week

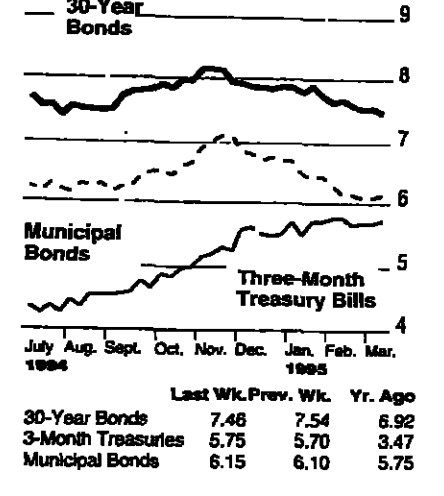
DOJONES INDUSTRIAL AVERAGE



	NYSE	NASDAQ	AMEX
Advanced	1,093	1,926	308
Declined	1,593	2,554	439
Unchanged	399	878	178
Issues Traded	3,085	5,358	925
New Highs	124	238	34
New Lows	195	152	63

	Close	Chg	%Chg	YTD %
D J Indust	4,035.61	+46.00	+1.15	+5.25
D J Transp	1,557.73	-15.13	-0.96	+7.06
D J Util	188.37	-1.72	-0.90	+3.77
S & P 500	489.57	+4.15	+0.85	+6.60
S & P Indust	581.68	+6.50	+1.13	+6.24
NYSE Comp	264.83	+1.54	+0.58	+5.54
Nasdaq	802.22	+3.43	+0.43	+6.68
AmeX	452.78	-0.71	-0.16	+4.41
Russell 2000	256.01	-0.89	-0.35	+2.26
Wilshire 5000	4,814.99	+27.12	+0.57	+6.04
Value Line	286.40	-0.29	-0.10	+3.20

INTEREST RATES



New York Stock Exchange

Vol. (00)	Last	Chg.	Pct.	Vol. (00)	Last	Chg.	Pct.
TelMex	53,808	+28 1/2	+2	MACOM	10	+3 1/4	+48.2
RJR	43,524	5 1/4	+12	ChinH	34 1/4	+9 1/2	+36.3
Hansn	32,530	18 1/2	+1/2	Grplus L	11 1/4	+2	+21.6
ToyRU	21,269	24 1/2	-3	BufetIn	77 1/2	+13 1/2	+21.0
Compq s	21,243	33 1/2	-1	Grplus D	9 3/4	+15 1/2	+21.0
IBM	17,027	81 1/2	+1 1/4	GrpCsa	11 1/2	+17 1/2	+19.2
FormIS	16,223	26 1/2	+1	USXDel	9 1/2	+11 1/2	+18.5
YPSoc	15,946	16 1/2	+3/4	DescSaDe	7 1/2	+11 1/2	+17.7
MicTch s	15,465	67 1/2	+7/8	OHMCo	8 1/2	+11 1/2	+17.2
Motola s	14,167	56 1/2	-2 1/4	FICNits n	17 1/4	+23 1/2	+16.0
Chryslr	13,996	41 1/2	+3/4	BoiBer	23 1/4	+3	+15.6
BarGold	13,925	22 1/4	+13/4	Bomby s	9 1/4	+11 1/4	+14.7
Merck	13,193	41 1/2	+1/4	Potash g	41	+5 1/4	+14.7
GrupTelv	12,908	15	+1/2	LevFurn	6	+3/4	+14.3
PhlMr	12,166	63 1/2	+13/4	ContCan	28	+3 1/2	+14.3

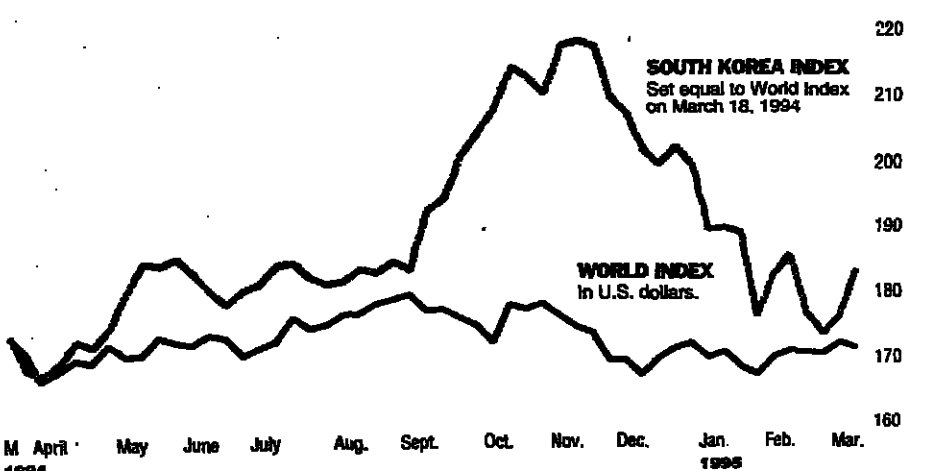
Nasdaq

Vol. (00)	Last	Chg.	Pct.	Vol. (00)	Last	Chg.	Pct.
Intel	246,395	80 1/2	+13/4	Envrn w l	1	-5 1/2	-84.3
Micra s	237,224	68 1/2	+4 1/2	QuadSys	73 1/4	-6 1/2	-45.1
NexelCm	209,905	14 1/4	+23/4	Brand	7	-4 1/4	-37.8
USHi s	157,278	41 1/4	+3/4	FriHth s	15 1/2	-7 1/2	-33.5
Cisco s	133,747	34 1/4	+3/4	AcresG un	5 1/2	-2 1/2	-30.2
MOI	130,738	20 1/2	+7/8	Athena	5 1/2	-2 1/2	-29.9
Oracle s	129,255	33	+1/4	Nick n	3 1/2	-1 1/2	-26.2
Novell	106,495	20	+1/8	ZonaGn	43 1/4	-1 1/2	-25.5
NetSc A	98,198	22 1/4	+1/4	Gander	9 1/4	-3 1/4	-25.3
VLSI	94,674	16	+5/8	GnMagc n	13 1/2	-4 1/2	-24.3

American Stock Exchange

Vol. (00)	Last	Chg.	Pct.	Vol. (00)	Last	Chg.	Pct.
EchoBy	59,149	9 1/2	+3/4	SBMInd	6 1/4	-1 1/2	-20.6
RoyceB	50,017	3 1/2	+3/4	WPhar	5 1/4	-1 1/4	-19.2
Voom B	33,611	4 1/2	+3/4	RedEmp	5 1/4	-1 1/2	-16.4
InfDigCm	23,436	10 1/2	+1/2	FlCntr	5 1/2	-1	-14.6
RstInt	23,390	1 1/2	+1/8	KVB	6 1/4	-7/8	-12.3

World Stock Markets



Prepared by Goldman, Sachs & Co. using data derived from the FT Actuaries World Indices, a measure of stock market performance. The FT indices are compiled jointly by The Financial Times Limited, Goldman, Sachs & Co. and NatWest Securities Ltd. in conjunction with the Institute of Actuaries and the Faculty of Actuaries.

PERFORMANCE		IN U.S. DOLLARS				IN LOCAL CURRENCY				
Country	Index	Week % Chg.	Week Rank	YTD % Chg.	YTD Rank	Dividend Yield	Index	YTD % Chg.	Exchange Rate to \$	YTD % Chg.
Australia	181.45	-1.2	9	-5.9	20	4.13	144.04	-2.1	1.3414	-3.9
Austria	187.35	-1.1	8	2.5	7	1.18	137.75	-6.4	9.9571	9.5
Belgium	172.97	-1.8	11	2.7	6	4.43	124.90	-5.5	29.28	8.7
Britain	193.41	-2.9	15	-0.7	13	4.44	181.33	-1.8	0.6324	1.1
Canada	128.36	1.4	2	-0.8	14	2.67	130.75	-0.5	1.4068	-0.3
Denmark	256.42	-3.8	18	1.8	9	1.58	198.44	-4.8	5.8901	8.9
Finland	179.56	-3.2	17	-3.4	17	1.36	166.14	-10.2	4.4089	7.5
France	162.74	-2.4	13	-0.5	12	3.38	128.52	-6.1	5.0346	6.0
Germany	147.84	-3.9	19	3.2	4	1.96	108.72	-5.9	1.4145	9.6
Hong Kong	325.32	-2.6	14	-0.3	10	4.10	322.91	-0.3	7.7313	0.1
Ireland	205.55	-4.6	22	-0.3	11	3.61	183.30	-2.6	0.6329	2.3
Italy	70.08	-4.0	20	-6.9	22	1.77	87.69	-3.9	167.55	-3.2
Japan	145.47	0.2	4	-7.3	23	0.91	83.90	-15.2	91.24	9.3
Malaysia	465.34	-4.7	23	-2.9	16	1.86	457.45	-3.0	2.5525	0.0
Mexico	748.60	-4.5	27	-47.1	24	2.00	544.87	-28.6	6.65	-25.9
Netherlands	227.76	-0.4	5	5.0	2	3.69	165.09	-3.9	1.5882	9.3
New Zealand	72.64	-0.8	6	3.1	5	4.94	59.63	2.0	1.5458	1.0
Norway	203.53	-3.0	16	-4.5	18	2.25	174.31	-10.9	6.3098	7.2
Singapore	349.57	-1.3	10	-6.3	21	1.87	229.08	-8.6	1.422	2.5
South Africa	328.97	4.9	1	-2.9	15	2.58	264.07	-11.9	3.695	10.3
Spain	124.89	-7.8	24	-5.4	19	4.62	122.95	-6.6	129.95	1.3
Sweden	236.81	-1.0	7	2.5	8	2.09	252.45	-0.7	7.2012	3.2
Switzerland	171.94	-1.9	12	4.1	3	1.84	125.98	-6.0	1.1818	10.7
United States	200.26	0.8	3	6.7	1	2.83	200.26	6.7		

COMPOSITE INDICES
Europe 169.63 -2.8 0.4 3.33 144.49 -4.1
Europe/Pacific 159.95 -1.4 -3.7 2.19 113.08 -9.5
World 172.24 -0.5 -0.5 2.44 140.76 -4.1
Source: Goldman, Sachs & Co. Exchange rates as of Friday's London close.
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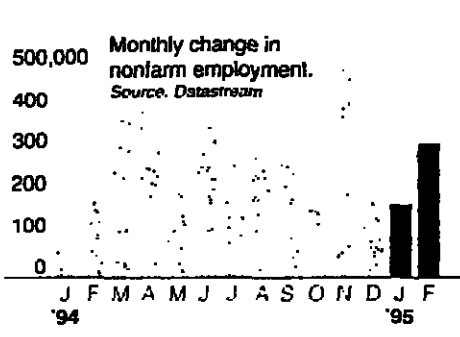
The Economy

Americans Can Still Get 100 Pennies for a Dollar

The plunging dollar and peso have, it seems, matched headline for headline lately, which could lead a casual observer to think this country's woes match Mexico's. That's silly, of course. For starters, while Mexico's currency has lost half its value in a few months, the dollar, after falling for a decade, has lost far less. But the bigger point is that America is big enough, ultimately, not to care that much. We buy 90 percent of our stuff right here, and that spending won't be seriously affected by what happens across the ocean. So while Alan Greenspan hinted at raising rates again, which arrested a dollar slide last week, some economists say it would be foolish to go through such hoops that it lands us in recession. Look at it this way: it's not that the dollar is low, said Paul Krugman, a Stanford economist, but that "the yen and the mark are getting ridiculously high."



Welcoming a Jobs Report



Declining unemployment is always good news — as it was last week when the rate fell to 5.4 percent, a four-year low. This report was especially welcome, for it showed that with all the Fed's rate increases, economic growth persists — with no inflation to speak of. And payrolls increased by a surprisingly high 318,000. The not-so-good news, yet again, was that job growth was concentrated in temporary workers and part-timers — hardly foundations for careers. But the market thought positive, as the Dow leapt 52.

When in Doubt, Sue Someone

Few would disagree that this nation is awash in lawsuits, many of them frivolous. "Law-suit abuse saps our economy," said Representative Henry Hyde. What to do? The Republican solution is simply to throw out most of the bath water in sweeping tort reform, but will the baby be thrown out, too? No, the House insisted, as it plunged ahead last week on its crusade to limit investors' suits against companies or brokers and put a cap on damages in civil lawsuits. It also voted to force the loser in a Federal civil suit to pay the opponent's legal costs. A clear deterrent to frivolity, say supporters, while critics say corporations could pay less heed to safety.

Welfare, by Lots of Other Names

This is the age of militant self-sufficiency. Don't expect handouts, don't go whining to the courts about life's slings and arrows — that's the message to folks on the sidewalk. But do corporations fit this ruggedly independent mold? Not exactly. With Washington's checkbook in the news, some attention has shifted to business subsidies — what Robert Reich calls "aid for dependent corporations." The "market promotion" program of the Foreign Agricultural Service, for one, doles out \$110 million a year for things like helping Campbell advertise V-8 Juice in Argentina. And the Cato Institute said last week, "Corporate pork is pervasive."

Do-It-Yourself Health Reform

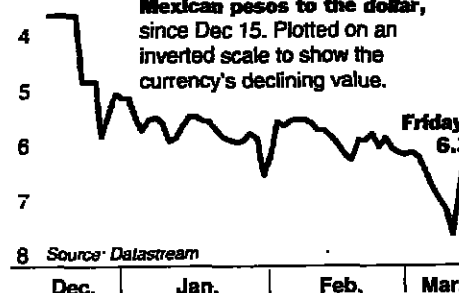


El Paso doctors who banded together.

Who says health care reform fizzled? New twists pop up everywhere — they just don't have "Made in Washington" labels. "The future," said one health economist, "is in the large capitated medical group" — unsettling language that simply refers to the per-capita fee that H.M.O.'s charge. And those H.M.O.'s won't be the sole domain of insurers and other middlepeople. Across the nation, doctors have already been finding strength in groups, and now they're going a step further, banding together — in El Paso and elsewhere — to create their own H.M.O.'s. These cost-pinching days, the economist said, "individual doctors don't stand a chance."

Facing Grim Facts in Mexico

For a while, there was a sense that a quick fix was possible in Mexico — that the crisis was a blip that could be corrected with a few carefully targeted billions from outside. That was not the tone last week though. "There's no easy way out," said Finance Minister Guillermo Ortiz; one observer saw "no magic cure." With the peso at another low, Mexico's Government adopted a tough economic plan that pointed unambiguously to hard times: raising gasoline prices 35 percent, the value-added tax to 15 percent.



World Markets/Paul Lewis

Is South Korea Poised to Rise Again?

It may seem foolhardy to write again about a so-called emerging market when blood is running all over the floor of Latin America's stock exchanges, but then is South Korea really an emerging market, given that the term is virtually synonymous with being a developing country? The International Finance Corporation, the World Bank's business promotion arm, coined the emerging market designation and includes South Korea in its index of such markets, as do other financial houses tracking these new and relatively undeveloped stock exchanges.

Yet South Korea, along with Taiwan, is very close to joining the industrial world and there is a case for saying that its stock market does not deserve to be tarred with the Mexican brush. In the worldwide fight to quality now under way, Seoul may have more to offer than intrinsically weaker emerging economies. With an average income of \$7,670 in 1993, according to the latest World Bank figures, South Koreans earn twice the income of workers in Malaysia, Mexico or Indonesia. And South Korea should cross the \$8,356 barrier sometime this year, becoming a high-income country instead of a middle-income one. Later this month South Korea is due to apply formally to join the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, the rich countries' Paris club.

South Korea's stock market, which peaked last November, has not escaped the emerging-market sell-off brought on by the Mexican fiasco, falling about 20 percent since then. However, the decline is certainly being aided and abetted by a tighter monetary policy as the Central Bank fights economic overheating by attempting to slow last year's 9 percent growth rate — Asia's fastest — to a target of 7 percent for 1995. The case for remaining bearish on South Korea is essentially political. Kim Jong Il's Communist state in North Korea could implode. If it does, the argument goes, South Korea would face even greater budgetary strains in taking over that impoverished country than the collapse of East Germany placed on West Germany after the Berlin Wall came down. Since Seoul would be forced to pump resources into the North to avert an economic catastrophe there, deficit spending and inflation would rise.

Currency

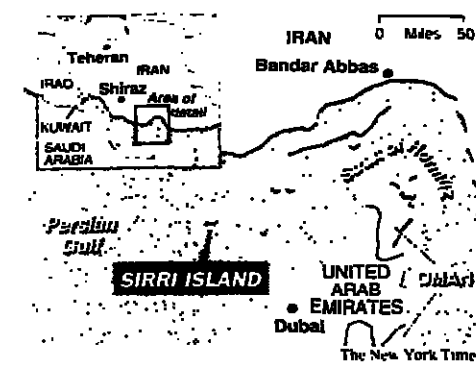
	Last Week	Prior Week	Year Ago
Japanese Yen per Dollar	90.90	94.10	105.06
German Mark per Dollar	1.4120	1.4244	1.6831
Canadian Dollar per U.S. Dollar	1.4073	1.4065	1.3828
British Pound U.S. Dollar per British Pound	1.5740	1.5303	1.5001
Gold	\$389.80	\$376.50	\$385.20

One for All, All for Barings?



It made a great story. A trader barely out of his financial diapers brings down a venerable British firm single-handed, proving yet again the amazing power of whiz kids let loose in the money shop. Sorry, but the case of Nicholas Leeson and Barings' collapse doesn't look that simple now. A glance at the way many American firms now operate — elaborate controls, monitors and double-checks — suggests that the fault, dear Barings, was not in your superstars. That, at any rate, was the tack taken by Mr. Leeson's lawyers last week. As one of them put it: "The reporting so far has not even scratched the surface" of what went on. "Everything he did, he did as an employee of Barings."

An Outcast, Still in Business



Iran, theoretically an outcast nation, has not exactly been cast out of the world's business loop. True, since that 1979 hostage mess, most American trade with Iran has been banned — direct trade, that is. But by Al D'Amato's estimate, 25 percent of Iran's oil has been bought by American companies, for sale elsewhere. And last week the spirit of this ostracism was stretched closer to the breaking point when Conoco, through a Dutch affiliate, made a \$1 billion deal to develop an oil field on Sirri Island, off Iran. It's "within the intent of the law," Conoco insisted, but the White House said, "This is not a helpful development." And Mr. D'Amato, saying he was "deeply distressed," said the Senate Banking Committee, which he heads, would try to tighten the embargo.

A Gift of Words



Imagine a world without paperbacks — no mounds of three-for-a-dollar romances at garage sales, no bookshelves that seemingly fill to bulging of their own volition. Truly a bleak prospect, but one we need not face — thanks, in large part, to a man named Ian Ballantine. In 1939, Mr. Ballantine and his wife, Betty, founded Penguin U.S.A. — and, later, Bantam and then Ballantine Books, making a big contribution to creating a mass market for all sorts of tales. Their titles over the years ranged from "The Grapes of Wrath" to the works of Ray Bradbury and J. R. R. Tolkien. Mr. Ballantine died last week at 79, untold millions of books survive him.

At the same time, the Seoul Government plans to raise the 12 percent limit on foreign holdings in any quoted company to 15 percent this year, thus creating more space in the market for foreign investors. "For all these reasons we expect to see the market rise again later this year," said John Bai, the Korean expert for Baring Securities. Investing in the South Korean market is not easy, however. Individual foreign investors face a regulatory obstacle course, so country funds make the most sense. The two oldest, the Korea Fund and the Korea Investment Fund, traditionally command a premium because they hold blue chips now closed to foreigners. The Fidelity Advisor Korean Fund and the Korea Equity Fund are more recent, while January saw the creation of the Mathews Korea Fund by the Mathews International Fund Group in San Francisco.

The New York Times

Founded in 1851

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Hit the Poor. Reward the Rich.

The stark unfairness of the House Republicans' legislative agenda was on display last week when committees approved three bills that would drive millions of poor people off welfare in order to finance tax cuts that have been made even more favorable to the rich. The G.O.P. is careering in a destructive direction.

By cutting perhaps \$70 billion, or 15 percent, out of poverty programs over five years, the G.O.P. would drive hordes of the poor off welfare without any help in finding jobs. This assault on the indigent cannot be explained away as a necessary belt-tightening to reach a lofty purpose, like cutting the Federal deficit. The Republicans need these cuts now to offset their first round of tax cuts, even before they get down to deficit reduction.

Last week they released proposals for cutting taxes that start with the skewed promises in the Contract With America and make them worse by giving less relief than originally planned to low-income families. A large part of the tax cuts goes to upper-income families with capital-gains income, retirement savings accounts and Social Security benefits. Middle-class families with children get a tax credit. But gone are previous proposals to provide refundable tax credits for poor families in two categories — those with children and those that incur expenses for adoption.

To help pay for these tax cuts, the welfare bills would discard the current pledge to aid every entitled poor person. They would cap Federal spending for cash assistance, food stamps and child welfare and turn over fixed pots of money, called block grants, to the states for them to spend largely at will. These ingredients do not mix well.

Block grants would be callous to the poor and harmful to the economy. When recessions hit, Washington now automatically spends whatever addi-

tional welfare money it takes to assist newly impoverished families. But under block grants, welfare money would not increase as the economy soured. Instead, the states would stay within preset spending limits either by raising eligibility standards or reducing benefits. That would eliminate a tool Washington has used to fight off recession: pumping money into the hands of poor consumers.

The Republican bills would also discourage work. States could qualify for block grants either by placing a high percentage of recipients into jobs, a costly exercise, or by reducing welfare rolls. Fiscally strapped states would almost certainly duck spending money on welfare-to-work programs and simply save money by paring caseloads.

Block grants would be destructive for another reason. States compete against one another to attract tax-paying families and corporations. A state that would raise taxes to pay for job placement and other poverty programs would risk repelling taxpayers and attracting poor residents from nearby states.

To embrace the G.O.P. plan, you have to believe at least three tales. First, teen-agers will stop having babies they cannot afford to raise if they face a future without welfare. Second, states will indeed spend money to help the poor in economically strained times. Third, the tax cuts that the G.O.P. proposes will lead to an economic resurgence. Not one of these propositions finds wide support among experts.

On welfare reform, President Clinton's vision has been largely right: he would offer assistance to the indigent if they agreed to undergo training, accept job placement and identify the fathers of welfare babies. The G.O.P.'s vision is largely wrong: it would drive recipients off welfare even if they were willing to play by these reasonable rules.

A Bronx Miracle

The Bronx may well be the nation's most infamous symbol of urban blight. Battered by high-way construction begun in the 1950's, abandoned by the middle class in the 60's, torched by arsonists through the 70's, the South Bronx in particular became a bombed-out relic and a synonym for hopelessness and decay.

But that image is no longer accurate. Take a Sunday drive and you will be surprised to see that the burned-out Bronx is largely gone. The dispiriting stretches of ghost buildings that once loomed along the Cross Bronx Expressway have either been reclaimed as cooperative apartments or cleared to make way for hundreds of new town houses.

After Mayor Edward Koch initiated a citywide \$5 billion housing renovation plan in 1986, the city and not-for-profit groups began renovating thousands of apartments each year. Additional city funds were committed to help subsidize the construction of new homes. The Bronx has clawed its way back and is rapidly becoming a borough of middle-class homeowners. Since 1986, 19,000 apartments have been refurbished and more than 2,500 houses have been built for working-class home buyers, with 2,000 more in the pipeline.

The heroes of this story are the not-for-profit community development corporations that build and rehabilitate buildings and counsel the first-time home buyers who make up just about all of the new owners. The C.D.C.'s organize the process and in-

struct the buyers in everything they need to know, including the art of applying for a mortgage in a community whose real estate the banks once looked upon as having zero value.

The banks and some builders remain skeptical. Thus the buyers must part with their down payments while the homes they wish to buy are yet to be built. For a working-class family living in the much-maligned Bronx, this requires a huge leap of faith.

That faith is paying dividends. Neighborhoods once made up entirely of the poor are being economically integrated. With ownership comes pride in community — and vigilance against crime and disorder. While small patches of desolation remain, the vast empty stretches have all been renewed. Neatly kept town houses have cropped up where the eyesores used to be. Markets and retail stores are cautiously returning to the neighborhoods.

Bronx Borough President Fernando Ferrer declares with pride that his community has reversed middle-class flight. Only the next census will show how true that is. But for now, the signs of promise spring abundant.

The Bronx has shown that government can help pull communities back from the brink and rebuild inner cities. The question is whether Mayor Rudolph Giuliani and Gov. George Pataki will eradicate the housing program in the next round of budget cuts. If they do, a vital tool for reclaiming other battered parts of New York City will be lost.

Editorial Notebook

Anarchy in Russia

One Kind of Fear Gives Way to Another

Through some cruel alchemy of history and culture, anarchy has replaced tyranny in the economic and civic life of Russia. Four years after the red Soviet banner was unfurled for the last time, Russians are finding the fear of crime is as destructive and dispiriting as the terror of repression.

Fear and frustration recently brought thousands of citizens to the grave site of Vladimir Lisyev, a television commentator and executive murdered by criminals apparently infuriated by changes he planned at Russian state television that might have impeded the embezzlement of millions of rubles in advertising revenue.

Periodically a single life in Russia acquires a mystical importance as a symbol of rebellion and truth-telling against an established order. Russians abhor but feel unable to alter. Mr. Lisyev was the latest. Andrei Sakharov was another. So was Vladimir Vysotsky, an actor and balladeer with a sandpaper voice who daringly sang about the underside of Soviet life. His death in 1980 drew tens of thousands of Muscovites into the streets in a wave of spontaneous grief that stunned and probably terrified the Soviet authorities. The people who gathered at Mr. Lisyev's grave seemed to be saying by their presence they could no longer be mute in the face of the crime and disorder that make life so uncertain.

A visitor can feel the fear in Moscow and provincial capitals, where the armed motorcades of Communist Party leaders have been replaced by speeding caravans of businessmen and their armed escorts. Affluent apartments, businesses and hotel lobbies are guarded by former paratroopers with automatic weapons.

Some Russians have made instant fortunes in the Klondike atmosphere. But a state of lawlessness infects everything from multimillion-dollar business deals, where bribery, extortion and gangland execution are common, to the most prosaic traffic infraction, where fines are arbitrarily set and pocketed by police. One Western auto dealer told me in December that until he

hired guards to travel on Russian freight trains carrying new cars to his showroom, he lost more than half the shipments to theft by railway workers and criminal gangs.

The loss of life and business are bad enough, but the disorder takes an intangible toll that could prove fatal to Russia's perilous passage from Communism to democracy. It discredits the concept of democracy as an enlightened form of governance, and erodes the authority of democratic institutions. For many Russians, democracy and a market economy mean crime, uncontrolled inflation and empty promises by their leaders. Few want a return to Communism, but many are frightened and disoriented, fertile ground for nationalists, militarists and even monarchists.

Russia is essentially a lawless society today. Acts of Parliament and promulgations of the president evaporate between their declaration and their execution, vanishing into a governing vacuum. Dozens of new taxes are imposed every year and almost all are evaded. The Russian mafia muscles into business and trade, and no one can stop it.

President Boris Yeltsin and Parliament, following the kind of crime-fighting script American politicians might use, are responding to public concerns with empty gestures or draconian measures. Suspending civil liberties, minimal as they are, will only revive the repressive practices of the Soviet state. Trying to fire the Moscow police chief and chief prosecutor, as Mr. Yeltsin did after the Lisyev killing, is no answer because corruption in law enforcement agencies is not isolated at the top.

Instead of prosecuting a war in Chechnya, Mr. Yeltsin should be constructing a civil society in Russia. It cannot be done overnight because Communism left a legacy of corrupt police, politicized prosecutors and rubber-stamp courts. But Mr. Yeltsin and the Government must move faster to build a new, effective and fair criminal justice system. Time is not on their side, for anarchy is the enemy of democracy. PHILIP TAUBMAN

Death Penalty Doesn't Allow for Human Error

To the Editor:

Wednesday was a tragic day for New York Gov. George E. Pataki signed New York's death penalty statute in the name of deterring future murders, reinstating the death penalty, which had been off the books for 18 years. The theory of deterrence, however, is a flawed one.

States without death penalty statutes, on average, have lower murder rates than states with such statutes. Moreover, let's use a little common sense: the criminal who commits a capital crime is not likely to be thinking of the consequences of his act.

Most capital crimes are committed during moments of great emotional stress, fear or under the influence of drugs or alcohol, when thinking is impaired. Even in cases where the crime is premeditated, the criminal usually expects to escape detention, arrest and conviction. No punishment can deter someone who does not expect to be caught.

State Senator Dale M. Volker, the leading proponent of the bill, said "there are people who are dead today who would be alive if we had had a death penalty" (news article, March 7). He fails to realize there are also people who are dead today who would have been alive if their innocence in the capital cases for which they were convicted had been proved before they were executed.

A 1987 study in the Stanford Law Review points to 350 cases between 1900 and 1985 in which innocent people were wrongly convicted of capital crimes; in 23 of those cases, the innocent person was executed, 8 in New York alone. Having capital punishment on the books ignores the possible mistake of human judgment and the criminal justice system.

The New York statute calls for

lethal injections as the means of execution, perhaps as a way to make the execution more humane. The only problem with such logic is that it is not doctors who apply the lethal injections; it is prison officials who often do so with ineptitude.

It is still not clear to me why Governor Pataki believes in a sanction that is arbitrary and discriminatory, kills innocent people, does not deter future crimes, costs more than life imprisonment, has other alternatives, is cruel and unusual, and morally wrong. Perhaps that's why every Western democracy has abolished the death penalty except the United States.

ERIC BASSING
Cambridge, Mass., March 8, 1995

Zero Tolerance

To the Editor:

Re "Deterrence Fails" (letter, March 3): David C. Leven of Prisoners' Legal Services of New York makes the usual "it's not a deterrent" argument against the death penalty I have been hearing for 30 years. These arguments are, informative as far as they go, but never discuss the following questions:

How can we ever know how many people have not committed a capital crime because of fear of punishment? How do we know that the Texas murder rate would not be even worse without the threat of execution? How do we know that the cathartic effect of ridding ourselves of a Ted Bundy is not more salutary for society than minimizing the moral atrocity of murder?

Some people support the death penalty for crimes of violence because it seems appropriate punishment, just as incarceration seems appropriate for theft or assault. We don't ask ourselves about the deterrent effect in those cases, we just take dangerous people out of circulation and send out the message that we will not tolerate their antisocial behavior. MAUREEN BRODERICK
Astoria, Queens, March 3, 1995

A Drifter in Florida

To the Editor:

Re "For an Honest Death Penalty" (Op-Ed, March 8): The passing reference to the execution of John Spenkink may puzzle some readers who do not recall the case.

As one who visited Mr. Spenkink while he was on death row in Florida not long before he was executed in 1979, perhaps I can suggest why the case should be remembered at the moment that New York is reinstating the death penalty.

Following a nationwide de facto moratorium on the death penalty for a decade, Gary Gilmore was executed in Utah in 1977 after refusing offers by the state to accept a life sentence. Mr. Spenkink, who was next, and the first to be executed who sought to prevent his own execution.

A drifter, he killed a fellow drifter with whom he had traveled across the country, apparently because the other man — who was older, bigger, and stronger — had raped him. A jury rejected Mr. Spenkink's claim of self-defense. The other man was asleep when he was killed; therefore, it was premeditated murder.

As murders go, this one did not create particular outrage, and it may seem strange that Florida decided to recommission executions by killing Mr. Spenkink. The reason Mr. Spenkink had to die was that he was white and most of those waiting their turn were black. Committing the sentence of a white and executing blacks would have buttressed allegations that the death penalty is enforced discriminatorily.

Judge Kozinski and Mr. Gallagher argue that defining more narrowly the crimes that should be punishable by death would be cheaper and fairer. The assumption is not warranted that laws can be written to specify precisely which 40 or 50 murderers, among more than 20,000 each year, should be executed. Inevitably, political considerations such as those that settled John Spenkink's fate will continue to determine who lives and who dies. ARYEN NEIER
New York, March 8, 1995

The writer, president of the Soros Foundations, was executive director of Human Rights Watch.

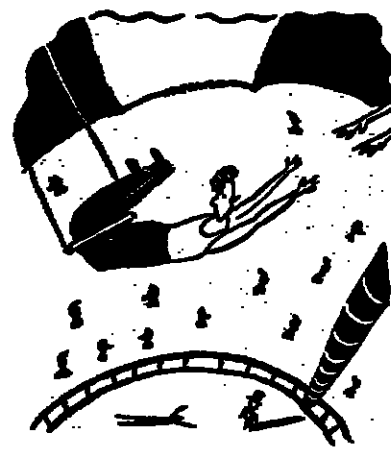
Affirmative Action Isn't Like Nepotism

To the Editor:

"My Equal Opportunity, Your Free Lunch" (Week in Review, March 5) mixes apples and oranges by equating the nepotism of immigrants in their respective guilds or professions with governmentally administered affirmative action.

First- and often second-generation Irish, Italian, Jewish or Chinese newcomers to America recommended or placed each other in lines of work in which they had got a foothold, just as Punjabis (taxi, newsstands), Haitians (taxi, supermarkets), Koreans (grocery stores) do today. It may not be the mathematically or politically correct thing to do, but it is an essential component of American pluralism, which became the steppingstone to upward movement.

To suggest that this spontaneous and normal practice of families or ethnic communities to help each other out is the equivalent of the governmentally sanctioned mathematical formulas that are the stuff of affirmative action is wrong on two



grounds: conceptually, and in terms of social policy. For it attacks one of the positive community-based efforts of people helping themselves that make this country what it is. ROBERT B. GOLDMANN
New York, March 5, 1995

Hatfield Exemplifies New Kind of Leader

To the Editor:

Senator Mark O. Hatfield of Oregon was courageous in voting against the balanced budget amendment. His subsequent crisis, however temporary, reflects poorly on the sincerity of many members of Congress (news article, March 9).

These men and women purport to lead us toward solutions, and they claim to be in a great hurry to do so. If they truly wished to provide leadership, they would use air and press time to begin a process of informing the public about underlying reasons for these longstanding deficits. They are not so out of touch as to not know them. Any "leader" who does not help more people understand these fundamental factors is simply playing a partisan theatrical role.

The reason we cannot balance the budget is beginning to be understood: the citizenry at large, including the middle and upper class, refuses to pay for services benefits they insist on receiving. Real leaders would assist us in recognizing the absurdity of saying, "Balance the budget, but don't touch my Social Security!"

This gap in our understanding of fundamentals is a predictable trap in a democracy. As long as doing so benefits them, politicians who are either weak, sly or both tend to sustain their positions by telling people what they want to hear. This requires talking out of both sides of the mouth, but experience shows that you can wear a pinstripe suit, chew gum and talk out of both sides of your mouth even as you make valuable eye contact with voters.

As the crisis deepens in coming years and political offices lose their allure, a new kind of leader will emerge. The new breed may not be big on party loyalty and may not have much fun. He or she will look a lot like Senator Hatfield as he looks now. Whether their terms of office last two months or 20 years, they will take the heat that comes from making every conscientious effort to tell citizens what they need to know rather

er than what they wish to hear.

Politics will always have an aspect of theater. Oregon is honored to have a Senator who refuses to play a part now mastered by many of his colleagues who twirl, shout and kick up dust in a chorus of indignation with little regard for the consequences. JAMES OPIE
Portland, Ore., March 9, 1995

Blues Belong to Us All

To the Editor:

Re "Down at the Crossroads, There's a Devil of a Debate" (Week in Review, March 5): There can be no denying that blues was invented by African-Americans in the first half of this century and the latter part of the previous one. Combined with ancestral African music and the folk music that surrounded them, it was born of the pain and suffering they experienced. For example, Hawaiian music, introduced to America in the 1890's, influenced the mournful slide guitar heard so often in blues.

Blues is timeless and healing and satisfying (whistle some bluesy riffs to experience this). To capitalize blues or place it under glass does it and its listeners a disservice. Blues must evolve to live on.

There are blues societies, festivals, radio shows, magazines and new recordings. For whatever reason, most performers and audiences of blues today are white.

Leontyne Price sang opera. Charley Pride sings country and western. Branford and Wynton Marsalis perform classical music. Are their accomplishments diminished because they are not descended from white Europeans? Can they not understand these musics while interpreting them in their own voice?

Soul does not recognize boundaries or limitations. The mind does that. And that is racism, pure and simple. MARK NOMAD
Northampton, Mass., March 9, 1995
The writer is a blues musician.

The Israeli-Egyptian Cold Peace Once Fostered Medical Ties

To the Editor:

Re your March 7 news article on the bitter debate among Arabs over cultural ties with Israel: It is puzzling to witness the deterioration in attempts at normalization between the Arab countries and Israel.

When a disease called Rift Valley Fever threatened the Middle East in 1978, the Camp David peace agreement between Egypt and Israel allowed for the first cooperative health program ever in the region between the Kivun Center for the Study of Infectious and Tropical Diseases of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem and Ain Shams University in Cairo.

This \$10 million, 12-year program was financed by the United States Agency for International Development and managed by the National Institutes of Health.

The program was successful as judged by the publication of 50 joint papers, international meetings held in Egypt and Israel, control of the disease problems we were contracted to deal with, and Israeli scientists working as visiting professors in laboratories in Cairo and Egyptian scientists working in these same cooperative programs in Jerusalem.

Most of all was the establishment

of a core of Middle East scientific talent that became a family of scientists with an esprit de corps whose medical discoveries benefited the region and the world.

Now the peace has turned cold, and the cultural links Egypt has with Israel are at a minimum to maintain "normalization."

Some of our dearest Egyptian medical colleagues and scientists have had to seek employment in the Persian Gulf states and elsewhere because they were discouraged or prohibited by governmental authority from cooperating with Israel.

Egyptian professional bodies still ban cultural exchanges with Israel. Our window into the world of Egyptian medical and scientific talent has been a wonderful experience with deep relationships established between dedicated individuals who yearn to see their country prosper. It is shameful that politics is preventing cultural regional cooperation. SANFORD F. KUVIN, M.D.
Palm Beach, Fla., March 9, 1995

The writer is chairman of the Kivun Center for the Study of Infectious and Tropical Diseases.

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مكتبة النجف

Return to Saigon, Tet 1995

By Robert Stone

KEY WEST, Fla. On the night of Jan. 31, 1968, a young Vietnamese peasant named Nguyen Van Sau sat with about 20 companions in a garage not far from the center of Saigon. It was the first night after Tet, the lunar new year, and although Communist attacks the night before had caused the official annual Tet ceasefire to be canceled, the city was full of visitors celebrating the holiday. Like the rest, Sau and his friends had come to town by bus or on foot, carrying holiday packages. But Nguyen Van Sau and the others were not in Saigon to celebrate. They were members of Sapper Battalion C-10 of the Vietcong and their packages were weapons.

Sau had grown up illiterate in Cu Chi Province, just outside the capital. In the National Liberation Front, he had learned to read and write, and had been instructed in the front's version of exalted patriotism. As a special honor, he was invited to join the Communist Party. And now he had been singled out again. The men and women of Sapper Battalion C-10 were going to attack the United States Embassy.

At around 2:45 A.M., their little convoy set out. It consisted of two vehicles: an old Peugeot van and a taxi of the same make, both familiar vehicles on Saigon streets. The embassy was a fortress, nearly new, a \$2.5 million complex that fairly dominated downtown Saigon. Its key buildings featured shatterproof plexiglass, and the entire compound was surrounded by an eight-foot wall.

Shortly before 3 A.M., the guerrillas in the taxi opened fire on the military police post at the main entrance. The M.P.'s returned fire and slammed shut and padlocked the steel gate. The Vietcong in the van, which stopped around the corner, used an antitank explosive to breach the wall. In seconds a commando squad of about two dozen was pouring through it. The two M.P.'s turned to face them. The first American to die was Specialist 4 Charles L. Daniel of Durham, N.C. He and his partner, Pfc. William Sebast of Albany, fell defending their positions, and their refusal to yield or withdraw probably spoiled the attack. U.S. reinforcements were soon brought to bear, and the battle for the embassy grounds went on through the night. By around 9 A.M., all of the attackers had been killed or captured. The American dead consisted of the two M.P.'s and one marine. The Communists had failed to gain entrance to a single building.

Up until that point in the war, nearly 20,000 Americans had died along with hundreds of thousands of Vietnamese. More than 58,000 Americans and an estimated four million Vietnamese — soldiers and civilians — would die before it was over.

During the early hours of Jan. 31, 1968, there was fierce fighting in Saigon and all over Vietnam. But the

Robert Stone, whose novel about the Vietnam War, "Dog Soldiers," won a National Book Award in 1975, is author, most recently, of "Outerbridge Reach."



attack on the embassy, in its quixotic effort, was perhaps the engagement that most fascinated the world.

In January, I spent a few days in Saigon, which is now called Ho Chi Minh City, just as Sixth Avenue in New York is formally called the Avenue of the Americas. It was coming up on Tet and everyone was buying presents; people were carrying little potted tangerine trees and apricot flowers, and visitors from up north were carrying peach boughs and blossoms, which don't grow in the southern part of the country.

The town was booming as never before. Foreign businessmen, including plenty of Americans, were everywhere. On the roof of the Rex, the hotel that once was the American bachelor officers' quarters, tourists and local plutocrats were dining on frogs' legs. The old gourmet restaurants are gone, but new ones seem to be opening every day.

On what was the Rue Catina before

Whod have guessed: we've won the war.

it was Tu Do Street, before it was Dong Khoi Street, antique porcelain and jewelry are for sale to prosperous buyers. Visitors can buy silk dresses, made to measure by shops whose employees will gladly stitch through the night to have the garments ready first thing in the morning.

Diners at the Rex can watch the streets below illuminated by Toshiba and Sony neon signs that turn night into day. A few old billboards enjoin Marxist morality — one condemns bootlegging — but the touts and the girls and the transvestites are all back in the same old places.

What would it be like to take a walk around town with Specialist Daniel, Private Sebast and Nguyen Van Sau and his comrades of C-10 one of these lovely holiday evenings, 27 years after the attack that killed them? Would they guess who had won the war in which they died? Surely the Americans would have thought it was their side. And Sau might be amazed at the fruits of the Communists' victory.

Vietnamese Communism was not going to threaten Durham, N.C., as the men who recruited young Daniel doubtless assured him it was. It was not even going to trouble Saigon all that long.

Nor was the earth about to rise on new foundations for Sau, although he might take some comfort in the new name for the G.I.'s' old haunt, Tu Do Street.

Dong Khoi, formerly Tu Do, the street where you get the antique jewelry and porcelain, means Spontaneous Uprising — presumably the one Sau and his friends waited all night in vain for in 1968. Although the uprising never came, they changed the street name anyhow. That's how politicians are.

Today, many a deal is in the making. In Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City, new factories will soon make Wisk liquid soap and Sunlight detergent for the Vietnamese kitchen. And before long, there will be a new U.S. embassy in Hanoi.

How ironic it all is. Perhaps such a squandering of young lives ought to be consigned to the realm of private grief, reflecting more shame than glory on the causes served. Yet we find ourselves moved and inspired by the heroism of young people who do their duty, who serve with all the vigor of their youth, strength and courage. The political futility of their sacrifice gives it a poignancy that is somehow ennobling. Even the Hemingway of "A Farewell to Arms," professing revulsion at the rhetoric of heroism, movingly employed it and became the high priest of martial virtue.

After a period of denial and ambiguity, the United States began erecting fitting monuments to the Americans who died in our futile war. Somehow we can't keep ourselves from honoring those who give their lives in the wars to which our shortsightedness and folly consign them. Yet we know that in every war lives are lost, meaninglessly, and that the cause behind their sacrifice is soon rendered irrelevant.

We have never succeeded in replacing proper conduct on the field of battle as the ultimate measure of courage and loyalty. We have not developed that "moral equivalent of war" that William James so wisely and impossibly called for. Knowing not a whit more than the ancient Greeks, we console ourselves as they did in catharsis, in stoic acceptance and tragic ritual. Our celebration of death in battle is, from a certain perspective, utterly irrational. Yet it is our only means of imposing some degree of meaning on war's meaningless destruction, the only way we have of facing the eternal ironies of history.

Foreign Affairs THOMAS L. FRIEDMAN Smoking Mountain

MEXICO CITY Of the many jokes making the rounds about Mexico's President, Ernesto Zedillo, maybe the most appropriate one is this: Mr. Zedillo is in a rowboat with the Pope and a big wind blows the Pontiff's miter off his head. Mr. Zedillo climbs out of the boat, walks on water and retrieves the Pope's cap. The next day's headlines in the Mexican newspapers read: "Zedillo Can't Swim."

Since taking office Dec. 1, Mr. Zedillo has been overwhelmed by Mexico's economic crisis, which erupted 19 days after he was sworn in. This has left the impression that his Cabinet is the gang that couldn't shoot straight. His aides openly concede that they were not prepared to deal with the economic situation, largely because they thought they were going to inherit a Rolls-Royce economy and when they discovered they had the keys to a jalopy about to be repossessed they weren't sure what to do. It has taken them two months to come up with a real rescue plan.

But what has been obscured is that Mr. Zedillo, while stumbling around in economics, has simultaneously instituted an impressive series of political reforms — making Mexico more open, democratic and less corrupt than ever before — for which he has gotten no credit, at home or abroad.

Since coming to office, the Yale-educated Mr. Zedillo has sacked the entire corrupt Supreme Court, which he replaced with new judges and made independent of the presidency; he has suppressed the guerrilla insurgency in Chiapas; he has empowered the traditionally rubber-stamp Mexican legislature with real oversight responsibilities; he has given the political opposition a significant role in his Cabinet; he has begun instituting the rule of law, where arbitrariness used to reign, and he has jailed the brother of ex-President Carlos Salinas, in a courageous effort to root out corruption in Mexico's Mafia-style ruling class.

In the short run, Mr. Zedillo is calculating that because Mexico is about to go through a brutal recession, with massive unemployment, having a more open political system that allows for more demonstrations and channels discontent via the ballot box may enable this society to blow off steam without blowing off the lid.

In the long run, Mr. Zedillo is gambling that by diffusing power, rather than concentrating it like his predecessors, he will ultimately

have more legitimacy, more authority and more cooperation from labor and business in getting this economy out of Chapter 11. That is a big bet. Mexico has always been a country that relied on a strong presidency to deal with crises, and what is democracy to Mr. Zedillo could be a tempting power vacuum to his opponents.

"This moment is one of a profound shaking of the political system," said Antonio Lozano, Mr. Zedillo's gussy Attorney General, whose investigations of the previous Government have turned up a trail of murder and drug money that has rattled the traditional power elite. "I have received full support from the President for my investigation. But we need support at home and from abroad."

That's for sure. As I left Mr. Lozano's office, I went to close his door and it was so heavy with bullet-proof glass and steel I could barely move it. No Toto, this isn't Kansas.

And that's what worries me. Talk-

Help
Zedillo now.

ing with several of Mr. Zedillo's aides and ministers I came away feeling that they are "nice guys," who are in a bit over their heads. They lack what Mexican politicians call "colmillo," or fangs. They need our help, and I think they deserve it. If Mr. Zedillo succeeds, we will finally have the sort of democratic Mexico as a neighbor that we have long coveted. If he fails, there will be an explosive, nationalist backlash here that will certainly spill north.

"Wall Street can help by giving us a break — stop attacking us for 90 days," Finance Minister Guillermo Ortiz told me Friday. "You don't have to be bullish on Mexico; just stop dumping the peso. Give our plan a chance."

There is a semi-active volcano east of Mexico City known as "Popo," an Indian word that means smoking mountain. Last December, the same week Mexico announced its disastrous peso devaluation, Popo started to spew smoke and ash, after a long period of inactivity. Let's not fool ourselves. Mexico today is Popo. It is a smoking mountain, and Ernesto Zedillo is sitting on top of it.

Journal
FRANK RICH

A Bigger Splash

Greg Louganis, after AIDS.

This year marks the 10th anniversary of Rock Hudson's death — a furtive, secluded, humiliating demise played out in Parisian clinics and American tabloids. The star who personified mainstream Hollywood sexual fantasies in the 1950's had become in the 1980's an untouchable: a gay man ravaged by AIDS.

Has the America that made Hudson feel he must run and hide changed in the decade since? The Greg Louganis phenomenon makes you wonder. Not only did Mr. Louganis discuss his homosexuality and announce that he had AIDS on television, but he has been embraced by multitudes for doing so.

His autobiography, "Breaking the Surface," will debut on the Times best-seller list next week at No. 1. And not by a hair. According to the best-seller list of Ingram, a major book wholesaler, Mr. Louganis's book was an instant No. 1 after its Feb. 27 publication, outselling No. 2 by almost 5 to 1 and O. J. Simpson's apology by more than 9 to 1. Record and near-record crowds of all ages and sexes are lining up for blocks at Mr. Louganis's book signings, and Random House, which originally printed 45,000 copies, is six rapid printings later, up to 255,000.

Thanks to an inescapable media blitz, in which Barbara Walters and Oprah Winfrey got first dibs on Mr. Louganis in person and People and Out magazines got first rights to his book, the country has spent two weeks feasting on the Olympic diver's life story in all its painful detail. "He's 12 Oprah shows in 1," says a movie producer I know, and

that's no exaggeration: in his 35 years, Mr. Louganis has suffered racism, homophobia, dyslexia, drug abuse, suicidal depression, parental abuse and rape at knifepoint, not to mention his medical diagnosis.

But as we've learned a lot, much of it dark, about one of the greatest and seemingly sunniest of Olympic athletes in the last two weeks, so we've also learned much about the country — not all of it pleasant, either. If it's inconceivable that Rock Hudson could have published such a book to so wide and sympathetic an audience 10 years ago, traces of 1985 America can still be found in the reception that greeted Mr. Louganis.

The mere fact that network commentators and the public at first fixated fearfully on "the blood in the pool" resulting from his head-banging mishap at the Seoul Olympics reveals how many Americans are still ignorant about how AIDS is transmitted. Nearly as disconcerting was the press sniping at the "cynical" coordination of Mr. Louganis's TV and magazine confessionals with his book's release. This sales technique, in which a newsworthy book is embargoed until the moment a publisher can maximize its mass-media exposure, is crass but unexceptional. Isn't a double standard at work when "Breaking

the Surface" is singled out for criticism while Bob Woodward's "The Agenda" followed the same game plan?

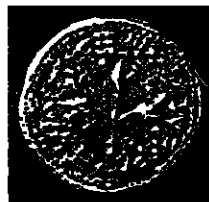
Such is Mr. Louganis's appeal — he comes across as guileless and vulnerable, but never self-pitying, on TV — that his honesty has already swept those debates away. And his example seems to inspire his audience to reveal a more attractive side of itself. Though Mr. Louganis is a gay man whose AIDS was sexually transmitted, he is being treated like Arthur Ashe, not Rock Hudson. When a member of the "Oprah" studio audience tried to make a moral distinction between an "innocent" AIDS-stricken athlete like Ashe and Mr. Louganis, Ms. Winfrey dismantled the argument to wild applause.

Not everyone agrees. Just as the Louganis lovefest mushroomed last week, New Gingrich called for the elimination of school counseling programs that might save isolated and information-starved gay teen-agers from suicide and AIDS. These are exactly the programs that might have cushioned Mr. Louganis's own punishing childhood — and in which "Breaking the Surface" could play an invaluable role.

Which is more representative of the country right now — the Speaker's mean-spiritedness or the affection of a courageous Olympic hero's newest fans? There's no way of knowing for sure because Mr. Louganis, taking the truth to large and receptive audiences who may not have listened to it before, may be rewriting the history of AIDS in America even as we speak.

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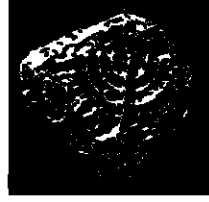
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FILM

A Balkan Gyre of War Spins Itself Onto Film

By ROGER COHEN

The gowns shimmer. The Strauss waltz begins. The figures sweep across the dance floor. The music suggests a world of heedless frivolity. But then the camera closes in. The faces of the dancers are swollen, gashed, suppurating, bloody. The thin smiles of the women dissolve into scars; the music dissolves into discord.

"Everything spins in a circle," says the Croatian director Ljorane Zdravkovic, who narrates this troubling scene from "Decline of the Century," his epic 1993 documentary on Balkan bloodshed. "The sky, the earth, the sun and moon, people, and the waltz. So do sickness and humanity, intertwining."

This image of the circle — which also appears in Milcho Manchevski's "Before the Rain," a film that opened in the United States last month — is a recurrent one in movies spawned by the wars in what was Yugoslavia. Grievances, passed down through generations, return, distorted by the passage of time but still strong enough to encircle the Balkans and hold the area in a grip of violence. History is palpable and untamed. It is alive in the psyches of families and nations and in the repeated attempts to settle old scores.

This savagery in Europe at the end of the 20th century has come as a shock. In the West, time moves forward, not in circles. A cultural gulf has thus been revealed between a Balkan world seized by violence as it emerges from the freezer of Communist rule and a Western world lulled into moral torpor by decades of peaceful prosperity. On the one hand there has been the bloody weight of war; on the other, the weightlessness of zapping televised images of war from an armchair.

Confronted by this gulf, the movies about the latest Balkan wars pose critical questions about the moral obligations of artists and journalists. If so many writers went to fight on the Republican side in the Spanish Civil War, why have the Bosnian war and the herding of Bosnian Muslims into concentration camps not stirred a similar response? Again and again the questions arise: Which side are you on? Could taking sides help break the circle of violence?

Several films that have recently emerged from the region have begun sifting through the wreckage of Yugoslavia. Croatia, Bosnia, Macedonia, Slovenia and what remains of Yugoslavia all submitted films this year for Oscar consideration. One of them, "Before the Rain" (a co-production from France, England and Macedonia), has been nominated for an Academy Award for best foreign-language picture. In the movie — a haunting evocation of a Macedonian society on the verge of final fracture — the best intentions seem powerless before the violent dictates of history.

Mr. Manchevski, a 35-year-old Macedonian director living in New York, examines the smoldering hatred between ethnic Albanians and Orthodox Christian Macedonians in a fragile, newly independent state born of Yugoslavia's dismemberment. The potential for bloodshed is clear. When the suggestion is made that war is impossible, a weary Macedonian doctor comments, "That's what they said in Bosnia."

Of course, war in Macedonia would be nothing new: hence the film's circular imagery. Already this century, the land that is now Macedonia has endured the first Balkan war of 1912, the second of 1913 and the two world wars. In the same period, Macedonia has seen its frontiers change as it has successively fallen under the control of Ottoman Turkey, Serbia, Bulgaria, royalist Yugoslavia, Bulgaria again and Communist Yugoslavia. Even now the independence it has attained is being contested by all four of its neighbors — Greece, Bulgaria, Albania and Serbia.

Such a shifting history of conquest and migration breeds violence, Mr. Manchevski intimates, a violence beyond the comprehension of the West. "It's time to roast these Albanians on a spit," says one character in the film, a Macedonian peasant intent on exacting revenge for the loss of a countryman. "It's time to avenge our dead over five centuries."

Five centuries? The notion of killing people — let alone roasting them on a spit — because of something that may have happened in 1495 is unthinkable in the Western world. Not in the Balkans. The 500 years in question allude to the period of Ottoman Turkish rule. That the Turks have nothing to do with the Albanians of Macedonia except their shared Islamic faith is irrelevant; old, even ancient, scores must be settled and the Muslims, of whatever kind, eliminated.

In three years of traveling in Bosnia and the rest of former Yugoslavia, I have often heard such talk of people roasted on spits. The Bosnian Muslims say the Serbs treat their prisoners this way; the Serbs say such acts are typical of the Muslims, or "the Turks," as they insist on calling them.

I have my doubts that this particular torture has been used even in a war of such great brutality. But as Mr. Manchevski's and Mr. Zdravkovic's films make clear, that is not the

point. The point is that in the Balkan subconscious, the horrific image of human kebabs — like the specters of castration, rape, mutilation and beheading by ax — lives on. Many of these crimes have indeed been perpetrated during the wars of Yugoslavia's demise. People — mainly Bosnian Muslims — have been gathered in Serbian and later Croatian concentration camps, abused, tortured and sometimes executed. Appalling images have been captured by television cameras. The response from the West has been paltry.

Perhaps the inertia has stemmed from the plethora of images of violence flashing across television screens. The images are increasingly indistinguishable and so seem to carry no moral resonance. In a telling scene from "Before the Rain," a photo editor in London stares at pictures of Bosnian camp survivors. Their emaciated forms and terrified eyes recall the survivors of Nazi camps in 1945. A radio is playing. A cheery British voice says, "And now for the weather."

Two French directors have rebelled against what they see as the moral collapse of the West in the face of the Bosnian war. The most impassioned appeal for the defense of a multi-ethnic Bosnia and the most vitriolic condemnation of the Western world's military inaction is found in Bernard-Henri Lévy's documentary "Bosna!" In this film, a French intellectual has turned his hand to a war that he sees as decisive to Europe's future. "I made this movie," Mr. Lévy says, "because I handle a camera better than I handle a gun."

His point is hammered home over the course of the nearly two-hour movie, which played at Film Forum in Manhattan last fall. Sarajevo, a city where ethnic groups have long mingled, should have been a symbol of tolerance and civilization, Mr. Lévy maintains. Instead, he says, what happened to Sarajevo made a mockery of the idea of an integrated, unified Europe.

"The Bosnians are the guardians of our values," the film's narrator

Killing because of something that happened in 1495 is unthinkable in the West.

declares melodramatically. "If they triumph, so do our values. If they fall, we fall with them."

There are no nuances in this movie. The agony of Sarajevo is gruesomely evoked. Bosnian Muslims, accompanied by a dwindling number of Bosnian Serbs and Croats faithful to a multicultural ideal, are seen rising from their initial disarray to form an army. The Serbs who support Radovan Karadzic's push for an ethnically pure state in Bosnia are all monsters with menacing voices.

This approach sometimes leads to the facts. For example, he makes much of the joy of Sarajevo at the departure of the Yugoslav Army in 1992 but fails to note that despite a promise of safe passage out of Sarajevo, several young soldiers were killed in an ambush by the emergent Muslim-led Bosnian army. Do these deaths matter? Against the daily horror of Sarajevo, Mr. Lévy thinks not.

"There can be no question of making a balanced movie about Bosnia," says Mr. Lévy, who has visited Sarajevo several times since the war began. "We're living in crazy times. There's this growing cult of balance, of equidistance, as if the death of a torturer and his victim had the same value. They do not. Bosnia is a just cause and to respond, as we have, to its destruction with the delivery of humanitarian aid is like bringing sandwiches to the gates of Auschwitz."

The eminent French director Marcel Ophüls examines the Bosnian conflict from a different perspective, that of the journalists covering the war, in his intriguing documentary "The Troubles We've Seen," which was shown last fall at the New York Film Festival.

At issue in the quirky two-part film, made up largely of interviews with journalists, is how a European war is perceived in what Mr. Ophüls describes as the age of "TV ratings, consumerism, opinion polls and the dictatorship of institutionalized mediocrity."

His view, generally, is that journalists have done their job in exposing the war and exposing its horrors, often at great personal risk (40 have been killed). The problem with Bosnia, Mr. Ophüls discovers, is something deeper: the nature of the Western societies in which the news reports end up. These societies seem increasingly unwilling to see, increasingly unable to feel.

George Orwell, who went to fight in the Spanish Civil War, once wrote, "Any writer or journalist who wants to retain his integrity finds himself thwarted by the general drift of society rather than by active persecution." The drift in European capitals



Bosnian soldiers in Bernard-Henri Lévy's "Bosna!" — Made, the director says, "because I handle a camera better than I handle a gun."

and in Washington has been twofold: politically it has been toward the cynical containment of the conflict; culturally it has been toward the triumph of narcissism.

Political policy has thus been steered toward the avoidance of direct involvement in the war and, as a natural concomitant, the rehabilitation of the Serbian leader Slobodan Milosevic, the strongman who unleashed Serbia's violent nationalist catharsis and who is now seen, strangely, as a peacemaker.

Against this political backdrop, the words and images from the journalists in Ophüls's documentary become deprived of sense, and their news dispatches float off into an ether of indecision or obfuscation. In one telling scene, Simone Veil, a French minister and survivor of Auschwitz, says, "It's terrible: it's shocking," and then concludes that nothing can be done.

Culturally, the signs are even more ominous. Mr. Ophüls contends (and they help explain why his movie has flopped at the French box office). "No violence, real or fictional, is taken seriously any longer," he says. "It's all just imagery — video clips."

Within Croatia and Bosnia, fighting has cut through true feelings like a scythe. People who love across ethnic barriers are outcasts. A mixed marriage is an insult to the resurgent Balkan tribalism.

In the Serbian movie "Vukovar — General Delivery," which was shown in Berlin last month, Boro Draskovic examines how the love of Ana, a Croat, and Toma, a Serb, is ripped apart by the 1991 Croatian war. The setting of the movie is apt for Vukovar is a latter-day Dresden. It was demolished by the shelling of the Serbian-dominated Yugoslav army in the fall of 1991 and is now a Serbian-held ruin inside Croatia.

The movie takes a Serbian view of the conflict, and it often has an amateurish feel, but it is a long way from a diatribe. In part this is because the most sympathetic character in the movie is Ana, played by the extraordinary Mirjana Jokovic. Thus a Serbian film is centered on a Croat.

"One falls asleep in one's homeland," Ana says, summing up the dismay of many former Yugoslavs, "and one wakes up abroad."

In the film, Toma is called up by the Yugoslav Army and is soon firing on his own city. Ana, his wife, wanders pregnant across a landscape of horror. Amid the ruins, an old woman boils meat in a cauldron and asks, "When you boil pig that has fed on a man, what are you cooking — pork or human flesh?"

A good Balkan question — like asking how many layers there are in hell. The mutual incomprehension of people and communities plunged into this hell is caught when Toma comes to see Ana in the midst of the fighting. "The most important thing," she says, "is that you are alive and well and on the right side."

"What is the right side?" he asks. But the right side — a stand against this madness — has already been washed away. Bodies now float in the Danube, just as they did on the Sava and the Drina during World War II. Children, wide-eyed, watch the killing, perhaps in prelude to yet another renewal of the infernal Balkan cycle. A piano lies capsize in a bombed-out street: civilization is fragile here. So, too, is love: Toma and Ana, inevitably, go their different ways.

"We wanted to make an antiwar film, a film that did not take sides," says Danka Mandzuka, the producer. "I felt a moral duty to show how ordinary lives were destroyed by nationalist folly."

"Vukovar — General Delivery" has been shown at festivals in San Jose, Calif. (where it won the best feature film award), Charleston, S.C., and Fort Lauderdale, Fla. In some places Croats protested the film. But in general, Mrs. Mandzuka says, the protests faded once the film

was seen. Still, she believes that the film has no chance of being distributed in Croatia as long as President Franjo Tudjman remains in power there.

Many Croats object to the way the movie concentrates as much on Serbian unease over the growing Croatian nationalism in Vukovar as on the barbarity of the Serbs in destroying the city. There is justification for this argument. The film scarcely examines Serbian nationalist fury, the force mainly responsible for the destruction of Yugoslavia.

The Croatian side of the story is told in Branko Schmidt's slow and uninteresting "Vukovar — The Way Home," a story of Croatian refugees driven from Vukovar and living on a train. The most arresting shots are of Croats gazing across the flat fields of Slavonia at the town from which they have been driven and to which they now long to return. I have stood with many refugees in the former Yugoslavia gazing at distant hometowns they vow to fight for. That sentiment alone has the power to feed this war for years to come.

Two international feature films set in Bosnia are coming later this

year. "Gospa," a Croatian-Canadian-American production about the miracle of Medjugorje, opens at Radio City Music Hall on April 10. It was filmed on location in Medjugorje and Zagreb and stars Martin Sheen, Michael York and Morgan Fairchild. A new movie by the Greek director Theo Angelopoulos, "The Gaze of Odysseus," was described by its star Harvey Keitel as the "story of a soul's journey to redeem itself." "The Gaze of Odysseus" is set in Sarajevo and Mostar.

Can the war be stopped? Not without understanding and not without courage — qualities absent in the Western response to Yugoslavia's disintegration. Understanding means grasping the long thread of violence of which this war is the latest expression. Courage means telling the truth and demanding the justice without which there can be no peace.

Mr. Zdravkovic, whose "Decline of the Century" was seen at last year's Berlin Film Festival, is concerned above all with understanding. In a flat tone, using mainly old black-and-white documentary footage, he shows the joy of the Croats as they

Nazis arrive in Zagreb in 1941, the horror of the Croatian Jasenovac camp, where Serbs and Jews, among others, were massacred. Serbian babies with their skulls crushed, bodies floating on the Sava River, massacred bodies being exhibited in Bihac, a northwestern Bosnian town that has been the scene of recent fighting.

Elsewhere in Europe, such history has been told and confronted. But Communist Yugoslavia did not allow it. Tito, the Communist monarch, left the rancor and the fear festering in people's souls.

The former German Chancellor Willy Brandt went on his knees in the Warsaw ghetto. Tito never went to Jasenovac. Neither has Mr. Zdravkovic. Thus a place representing what Mr. Zdravkovic calls "man's greatest fall" remains unredeemed, still charged with the power to torment new killing.

The three-and-a-half-hour documentary by Mr. Zdravkovic, who lives in Prague, has not been shown in Zagreb. It seems unlikely that it will be. The movie does not square with the prevailing politics of Croatia.

TIMES PAST

BY CHARLES M. DEBER / EDITED BY WILL SHORTZ
Note: This Tuesday, March 14, will mark the 50,000th issue of The New York Times.

ACROSS	1 60's labor leader	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46
12 They're no gentlemen	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51
16 Film maker's special effects shot	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	
21 TV comic DeGeneres	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	
22 Fit to fill	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	
23 Mule Sal's canal	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	
24 Literature Nobel	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	
25 Headline of #36,683 (July 1, 1958)	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	
28 Explosive liquid	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	
29 Motley	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	
30 Nightclothes, informally	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	
31 Fragrant compound	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	
32 Gym wear	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	
33 Controversial James Lovelock book	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	
35 Marks left	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	
36 Proust hero	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	
37 Headline of #6,256 (Oct. 9, 1871)	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	
43 Holiday stamp	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	
44 Language suffix	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	
47 Eared seals	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	
48 Proboscis	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	
49 Be gracious to	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	
50 Ancient Chinese game	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	
51 Gang like a crow	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	
52 Bull: Prefix	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	
54 It has many feet	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	
55 Assault	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	
57 Headline of #31,545 (June 6, 1944)	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	
62 Slowpoke	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33																			



Be firm when children use nasty words

PARENTING

RUTH MASON

My three-year-old son's favorite new words are "mefageret" (retard) and "metumtemet" (stupid). He uses them toward me or his siblings (from whom he learned them) when he is displeased, but he also seems to delight in tossing them at total strangers on the street. I feel this is disrespectful—not to mention embarrassing. Ignoring it only makes him repeat the words more loudly or start getting physically aggressive until I have to respond. What do you suggest?

Word Worried

Dror Zantman, MA, clinical psychologist, coordinator of Habayit Hayarak, a psychological drop-in center in Jerusalem for parents and their children up to three years of age, answers:

A three-year-old enjoys exploring and exploiting the magic power of words. He sees that with a word or two he can control other people's feelings. At the same time, he is discovering the possibility of expressing his own feelings through words rather than actions. If he is ignored, he feels he is not communicating and he may use physical violence.

If a child curses and we react in an extreme way—either by ignoring him or by getting excited and shouting at him—he gets a fascinating show. He thinks: I say a word, and Mommy gets excited, or she reigns herself in—two very interesting situations to watch.

Developmentally, this is a time when parents teach children the proper time and place to do things. The child is learning self-control in such matters as toilet training and physical aggression. So it's a good time for parents to teach their children about saying the right thing at the right time in the right place.

You can quietly but firmly tell your child, "We don't say words like that here. If you're mad about something, you can tell me about it and I'll listen to you."

What do you do with a four-year-old who won't eat any vegetables besides carrots, potatoes and corn—unless you count tomato sauce on pizza? I've heard conflicting opinions: that parents shouldn't worry about it, and that they should make sure their children get proper nutrition.

Vigilant About Vegetables

Connie Steinberg, MS, clinical nutritionist, says:

Certain important vitamins and minerals found in vegetables are also available in fruit. Vitamins A and C are the most important of these. Vitamin A, which a child needs three times a week, can be found in carrots as well as orange fruits, such as peaches, and in dark, leafy greens. Vitamin C, which a child needs daily and is found in any citrus fruit, mango juice, papayas, strawberries and melons. Potatoes also have some vitamin C.



I'm afraid tomato sauce doesn't count. By the time it's cooked, the vitamin C is destroyed.

Never force your child to eat anything, but try different approaches. Some children will eat

only raw vegetables. I always keep some cut into sticks in the fridge. Others like them only in soup.

It's up to parents to offer a wide variety of foods and it's up to the child to decide what to eat.

Don't make a big issue over it, because once children realize it's an issue, they tend to fight it.

If you have a question about parenting, write to: Parenting, POB 81, 91000 Jerusalem.

Time to help creatures of the sea hear each other's grunts and snaps

EARTHLY CONCERNS

D'VORA BEN SHAUL

UNTIL recently, not much attention was paid to the growing problem of ocean noise.

Many efforts have been made to control noise levels on land and in the skies. But there are almost no restrictions on sound levels that affect more than 70 percent of the earth's surface, even though we know that whales, dolphins and a host of other marine creatures are acoustically sensitive and depend on sound to ensure their survival.

The problem of underwater sound surfaced last year, when scientists at the Scripps Institution of Oceanography proposed a plan to use underwater sound waves to determine global temperatures. The plan was based on the fact that sound travels faster in a warm medium (air or water) than it does in a cold one.

According to the plan, known as Acoustic Thermometry of Ocean Climate (ATOC), Scripps would install two large sound transmitters on the ocean floor, one about 32 km. off Big Sur, California, and the other near the Hawaiian island of Kauai. These transmitters would broadcast a rumbling noise for 20 minutes every four hours over a 10-year period.

These 195-decibel blasts would be so effective that Scripps planned to eventually monitor the sounds produced from a series of transmitters around the Pacific Rim from stations as far away as New Zealand, some 10,000 km. away. In this way, they hoped to chart ocean temperature changes over the next decade and thereby characterize "greenhouse" trends more

cheaply and quickly than through current atmospheric measurements.

But before the plan could be implemented last April the citizens of California and Hawaii succeeded in stopping it through the National Marine Fisheries Service, the licensing authority that must approve the placement of the transmitters.

They based their objections on the work of Drs. Linda Weigart and Neil Whitehead, who are cetologists—whale experts—from Nova Scotia. The two claim that the constant barrage of sound would interfere with the acoustic abilities of marine mammals and many fish; would disrupt migrating, breeding, feeding and socialization patterns; and may even cause permanent damage to the sensitive sonar apparatus so vital to them.

"A deaf whale is a dead whale," said Dr. Weigart. Not all experts agree on the degree to which sound is important to marine life, but all agree that it is important. Fish grunt, lobsters click, shrimp snap and any scuba diver knows that if you float silently over a reef you are immersed in a blanket of sounds from the creatures of the deep. Though specific research has not been done, there is evidence that gray whales alter their course by many miles to avoid the noise of oil-drilling rigs at sea.

Until further studies are completed, it seems that Scripps will have to shelve its plans for underwater measurements. First, serious research must be done, to tell us if the world below the sea is getting too noisy for the comfort of its residents.

Elevator manufacturer responsible for tenant's fall into shaft

LAW REPORT

ASHER FELIX LANDAU

In the Supreme Court, sitting as a Court of Civil Appeals, before Deputy President Justice Aharon Barak, and Justices Gvrieli Bach and Eliyahu Mazza, in the matter of Yisraelift (Services) Ltd., appellant, versus Rahel Hindley and others, respondents (C.A.241/89).

ON January 2, 1982, Daniel Hindley wanted to use the elevator in his building to get from the third to the ground floor. Though the elevator was on a higher floor, the door was unlocked, and when he opened it, he fell to his death.

Yisraelift manufactured the elevator in question in 1973. It was installed in the building shortly thereafter, and Yisraelift serviced and maintained it.

Shortly after the accident it was examined by experts of the Labor Ministry and the Israel Metals Institute. Both the elevator itself and its accessories were found to be in order.

Hindley's dependents sued Yisraelift in the Tel Aviv District Court for damages, relying mainly on the latter's negligence. In March 1989, their claim was upheld and Yisraelift appealed to the Supreme Court. The dependents also cross-appealed, seeking to increase the amount of damages awarded.

JUSTICE BACH delivered the first judgment of the court. There was a dispute between the parties, he said, as to why the elevator door was unlocked although the door was not on that floor, and why it had ascended although the door was unlocked.

The judge, he said, had visited the building, and had heard the evidence of experts and tenants. But he could make no positive finding on either of the above points. He did point out that if someone had operated the elevator manually on that day for some reason—as had been suggested—there was no warning in the building as to the danger involved in that procedure. At the same time, he was not satisfied that the elevator had been manually operated.

Justice Bach rejected Yisraelift's criticism of the manner in which the district court had dealt with the facts. It had made no definite findings, and was well aware of the uncertainty as to the cause of the accident. Mentioning some other technical aspects, such as the suggestion that the elevator's brakes and the electric notice "lift here" were faulty, he held there was no basis for an appeals court interfering in relation to the facts of the case.

It was clear, he continued, that Yisraelift's negligence had not been proved by direct positive

evidence. The judge had held, after hearing all the evidence, that the cause of the accident was uncertain. The elevator had functioned perfectly for nine years, and experts who examined it 36 hours after the tragedy confirmed that no fault could be detected. The district court, however, had relied on three legal provisions in upholding the claim.

Section 38 of the Civil Wrongs Ordinance (New Version) of 1968 provides that "In any action in respect of any damage in which it is proved that such damage was caused by any dangerous thing, other than fire or an animal, or by the escape of anything which if it escapes is liable to cause damage, and that the defendant was the owner of, or the person in charge of, such thing or the occupier of the property from which such thing escaped, the onus shall be upon the defendant to show there was no carelessness for which he is liable in connection with such dangerous thing or the escape of such thing."

Citing precedents and legal texts, Justice Bach said he could not agree with the district court that the elevator, in ordinary use, was "a dangerous thing." Of course, it could be regarded as dangerous if its mechanism was faulty. In that event, however, it had to be proved that Yisraelift, as being in charge of the elevator, knew or should have known it was faulty and dangerous.

Since both the cause of the accident, and the time that cause was created, were unknown, there was no basis for holding that Yisraelift knew or should have known of the impending danger.

Section 38, therefore, could not avail the dependents.

SECTION 41 of the Ordinance, embodying the well-known maxim "res ipsa loquitur" ("the thing speaks for itself"), provides that "In any action in respect of any damage in which it is proved that the plaintiff had no knowledge or means of knowledge of the actual circumstances which caused the occurrence which led to the damage, and that the damage was caused by some property of which the defendant had full control, and it appears to the court that the happening of the occurrence causing the damage is more consistent with the defendant having failed to exercise reasonable care than with his having exercised such care, the onus shall be upon the defendant to show that there was no carelessness for which he is liable in connection with the occurrence causing the damage which led to the damage."

It was not disputed, he said, that the dependents had no knowledge, or means of knowledge, of the circumstances causing the accident. However, the district court had held that the elevator was in Yisraelift's "full control" apparently because it

kept all the keys and access to the elevator's vital accessories.

This ruling, he said, conflicted with Supreme Court precedents which he cited. The section related to sole and complete control of the factors which could have caused or contributed to the accident. The very possibility that other tenants could have operated the elevator manually at the time excluded the conclusion that Yisraelift controlled it "solely and completely."

It remained to consider whether it was more reasonable to hold that the accident occurred through Yisraelift's negligence than with its having taken care. His answer was negative.

Israeli, Canadian and English precedents, and legal writings, he cited, illustrated the principal features of the maxim *res ipsa loquitur*. It did not express an "overriding legal policy." It was a rule of evidence based on common sense. If the accident remained wholly unexplained or was open to two hypotheses, one consistent, the other inconsistent, with the defendant's negligence, and both were evenly poised, the plaintiff had not proven his case. Moreover, proof of negligence was not enough; it was the defendant's negligence that had to be established.

Another important feature, arising also in the present case, was the length of time since the faulty apparatus was installed. The longer the time, the greater the possibility of outside interference.

Since the elevator had functioned properly for many years; no fault was detected after the accident; the cause of the accident was uncertain; and there was no indication of negligence by anybody and, particularly, by Yisraelift—neither Section 38 nor Section 41 of the above ordinance could assist the dependents.

THEY HAD also relied, said Justice Bach, on the Defective Products (Liability) Law of 1980, under which a manufacturer is liable to compensate a person incurring personal damage caused by a defect in the article manufactured or in one of its components.

Two dates could be relevant, he continued, in applying the above law—the date of manufacture and the date of the damage. The District Court had held that the damage having been caused after the law came into force, it covered the dependents' claim.

Bach then analyzed in some detail the principles applying to the question of a statute's retrospective application, and the provisions of the above law. Differing from the district court, he held that the law had prospective application, and that only from the date it was promulgated. Since, therefore, the elevator was manufactured before that date, that law also could not base the dependents' claim.

He would have proposed, therefore, said Justice Bach, that the appeal be dismissed. He would then have expressed the hope that Yisraelift would grant the dependents reasonable compensation on humanitarian grounds, without claiming the return of what it had already paid them.

Since his colleagues differed from him, he would record his agreement with their decision regarding the amount of damages and costs.

JUSTICE MAZZA dissented from his colleague, both as to the application of the maxim *res ipsa loquitur*, and as to the question of the control of the elevator.

Justice Bach had not criticized the district court judge's factual findings. The cause of the accident was unknown, but a number of possibilities had been raised. The district court had dismissed the possibility of someone having operated the elevator manually as unreasonable. However, there were still the possibilities of an electrical "short," or faulty brakes—which the judge did not reject—or dirt in the closing mechanism, or the effect of a change of temperature.

The dependents showed that the accident could have been caused by technical faults in the

elevator's mechanism. They had thus laid a sufficient factual basis for the court to hold that it was more likely to have been caused by Yisraelift's negligence than by some other cause. It was then for Yisraelift to show that the accident was not due to its negligence but perhaps to some other cause unconnected with fault on its part.

Yisraelift manufactured and installed the elevator, and was responsible for its proper functioning and safety. It in fact provided the necessary maintenance services and effected the required repairs to ensure these results. However, it had furnished no explanation whatever for what occurred, save the possibility that some person operated the elevator manually. Once the court had rejected this possibility, the cause of the accident stayed unsolved.

HE ALSO differed, he said, from the ruling of his colleague that Section 41 above required Yisraelift to have "sole and complete" control of the elevator. In his view, the Israeli precedents did not support this rigid requirement. Moreover, citing several Israeli, English and American precedents and writings, he held that modern authorities favored a more liberal approach in construing the expression "full control"

in Section 41 and other parallel legislation.

The existence of "control," said Justice Mazza, was to be tested by the defendant's being the "most able, prima facie," to prevent what caused the damage. This would depend on the type and scope of the defendant's maintenance of the property at the time of the damage. Applying the above test, Yisraelift did have "full control" of the elevator. The theoretical possibility of some third-party intervention was not sufficient to displace that conclusion.

For the above reasons Yisraelift's liability had been established. It was unnecessary, therefore, he said, to deal with the dependents' claim on the basis of Section 38 of the Civil Wrongs Ordinance and the Defective

Products (Liability) Law.

Justice Mazza then examined in detail the question of the damages claimed. He proposed increasing the amount awarded by the district court, and ordering Yisraelift to pay the dependents' lawyers' fees in the sum of NIS 25,000.

JUSTICE BARAK concurred with Justice Mazza.

As a result, and by majority decision, Yisraelift's appeal was dismissed. The dependents' cross-appeal was allowed, and costs awarded, as proposed by Justice Mazza.

Attorney Simcha Zilberman appeared for Yisraelift, and Attorney S. Deutsch appeared for the dependents.

The judgments were delivered on February 20, 1995.

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Jerusalem International Convention Center - Binyaney Ha'ooma

PURIM AT THE FAIR

Dr. Seuss: The Man and His Books

Meeting with Leah Naor, the translator of the Dr. Seuss books. Mon., March 13, at 4:30 p.m.

Creative Workshop on Dr. Seuss, at 5:30 p.m.

"Purim Food and More" Story-Telling Marathon, with Ruthie Klein, Nomi Folber and Etti Rosenthal

Tue., March 14, at 5:00 p.m., Wed., March 15, 11:00 a.m., and Fri., March 17, 11:30 a.m.

Senses, Workshop on Sight and Touch, an experimental workshop by the Jerusalem Science Museum.

Wed., March 15, at 12 noon and 4:30 p.m.

"The Light Side of Science," Balance, Science and Humor - Science Museum staff.

Thur., March 16, at 11:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

"Books on Costume" with Hanna Cohen. Thur., March 16, at 3:00 p.m. and Fri., March 17, at 10:30 a.m.

"Connect up with Internet" - Elronet provides computer stations and guides for children.

Mon., Tue., and Wed., March 13, 14 and 15,

11:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m.,

Thur., March 16, 11:00 a.m. - midnight,

Fri. March 17, 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

BUSINESS & FINANCE

MONDAY, MARCH 13, 1995

Furious Israel Shipyards workers try to attack receiver

FURIOUS Israel Shipyards workers tried to assault receiver Shmuel Tsur yesterday when a meeting aimed at reassuring the employees about the future of the plant erupted in violence.

The workers tried to attack Tsur during the meeting outside management's offices at the shipyards, forcing him to beat a hasty retreat into the building.

The angry employees pushed aside reporters and anybody else in their way and smashed the glass doors of the offices in the process as they chased after Tsur. Likud MK David Mena, who was among several MKs at the scene, placed a bench in front of the door of the office in which Tsur sought haven and formed his own human barricade between Tsur and the workers.

Members of the works committee also intervened and finally persuaded the protesters to back off and allow Tsur to leave the premises unmolested.

Mena and MKs Dan Tichon, Shaul Amor and Ra'anan Cohen visited the shipyards to hear the

workers complaints.

Earlier Histadrut trades union department head Amir Peretz also met with the workers at the plant.

The Histadrut is supporting the workers' campaign.

The workers held a rally in the compound with the MKs and representatives of other works committees who had come to show support and solidarity with their campaign.

It was following this that Tsur tried to speak to them. He stressed that Finance Minister Avraham Shohat had appointed a special committee to investigate their complaints, as well as allegations that the government had agreed to sell the shipyards for less than its real worth.

Tsur was interrupted several times by workers claiming he had sold them and the plant out.

The pent-up anger burst over when he maintained that the sale would ultimately be for their benefit.

DAVID RUDGE

"What do you guarantee me after 34 years of work at this place," shouted one of the workers, who appeared to sum up the feelings of the majority of employees.

Afterwards, employees said they had placed their trust in Tsur and felt let down over the terms relating to their conditions in the sale agreement.

Tsur, who was unhurt in the scuffles, took part last night in the inquiries by the special Treasury committee hearing, alongside representatives of the Histadrut and the works committee.

The Knesset Finance Committee is to discuss the sale of the shipyards at a meeting tomorrow.

Evelyn Gordon adds:

Meanwhile, MK Ariel Weinstein (Likud) charged that Israel Shipyards was being sold scandalously cheaply, and said the state comptroller should investigate the deal.

According to Weinstein, NIS 33-34 million of the

NIS 40m. sale price will be used to cover the company's debts to the banks and the workers' severance pay fund.

The remaining NIS 6-7m., he said, is meant to cover the rights to 350 dunams of land that the government assessor once valued at some \$30m. - and which have since increased in value by 15% in real terms - as well as the cost of all the buildings and equipment.

The buildings and equipment are valued by government assessors at \$4-5m., he said.

While it is true that the company has current liabilities of some \$10m., it also has current assets in the form of money due from the Defense Ministry and the Ports Authority, Weinstein added, and government officials have said the difference between the two is small.

Weinstein also said he has information about irregularities in the plans to move the navy shipyard from Eilat to Haifa, and demanded a Finance Committee discussion on the issue.

Housing sales jump 14%

HOUSING sales turned around in the last quarter of 1994, as they rose 14.1 percent over the previous quarter and pushed sales to a record 4,436 units, the Central Bureau of Statistics reported yesterday.

Despite the increase in sales after three anemic quarters, the supply of unsold housing continued going up 10.4% to 7,474 units, reflecting the large number of new housing starts since the

JOSE ROSENFIELD

third quarter.

The number of units for sale reached a record high 11,910, a 11.7% increase.

Sales rose at every level of construction, including completed units. Sales of apartments of all sizes increased.

During the last quarter of 1994, sales increased in the following cities: Jerusalem, Ashdod, Beer-

sheba, Hadera, Haifa, Kiryat Ata, Ramat Hasharon, Ra'anana and Tel Aviv.

Sales dropped in Bat Yam, Holon, Netanya, Petah Tikva and Rishon LeZion.

Some 83% of the 7,470 unsold units at the end of December were in the early stages of construction.

The bureau said 41% of the unsold stock consisted of apartments of five rooms or more.

IEC awards \$25 million contract to Swiss firm

RACHEL NEIMAN

THE Israel Electric Corporation has awarded a \$25 million contract to Swiss firm ABB to provide a 400-kilowatt ruggedized regulator to the Hagit power station.

The Electric Corp. will have the option to increase the regulator's power output by connecting \$28m. in additional turbines.

Four international companies were invited to participate in the bid for the tender.

Along with ABB of Switzerland were Siemens of Germany, GEC Alsthom of France and Toshiba of Japan.

A second tender awarded by the Electric Corp. yesterday went to contractor Ben Yakar Gat, who will construct two industrial gas turbines at the Hagit site.

The contractor installed the station's original two turbines, which have been in operation since last December.

Friedman & Hershkovitz were awarded a NIS 2.3m. manufacturing contract for two 10,000-kiloliter and two 750-kiloliter fuel and water tanks at Hagit.

BTG reports \$7.4m. net loss

RACHEL NEIMAN

BIO TECHNOLOGY General reported an annual net loss of \$7.4 million for 1994, compared with an annual loss of \$2.8m. in the previous year.

Revenues rose 26 percent to \$17.4m. from \$13.8m. in 1993.

COMPANY RESULTS

RACHEL NEIMAN

GIBOR SABRINA announced a fourth quarter net loss of NIS 2.6 million, compared with net profit of NIS 850,000 during the same period in 1993.

Quarterly revenues rose to NIS 64.8m. from NIS 50.9m.

The textile company suffered an annual loss of NIS 7.7m., compared with a NIS 10m. gain in 1993.

Revenues went up to NIS 229.46m. from NIS 223.84m.

American Israel Paper Mills announced an increase in annual net profits to NIS 33.38m. from NIS 31.89m. in 1993.

Revenues rose to NIS 826.2m. from NIS 760.8m.

Fourth quarter net profits went up to NIS 18.6m. from NIS 11.3m.

Revenues increased to NIS 235.37m. from NIS 186.9m.

Zeller Elagion Leasing posted an increase in annual net profits to NIS 3m. from NIS 2m. in 1993.

Earnings per share rose to NIS 1.13 from NIS 1.07 in the previous year.

Annual revenues jumped to NIS 8.3m. from NIS 3.45m.

In the fourth quarter, net profits fell to NIS 556,000 from NIS 707,000.

Quarterly revenues went up to NIS 2.57m. from NIS 952,000 during the same period in 1993.

Matav Cable Communications Systems reported a rise in annual net profits to NIS 25.69m. from NIS 14.4m. in 1993.

Earnings per share increased to NIS 1.19 from NIS 0.71. Annual

revenues rose to NIS 191.29m. from NIS 143m.

Net profits for the fourth quarter rose slightly to NIS 3.8m. from NIS 3.7m. in 1993.

Quarterly revenues jumped to NIS 51m. from NIS 38m. in the previous year.

Electronics Line suffered an annual net loss of NIS 4.3m., compared with a net gain of NIS 6.3m. in 1993.

Annual revenues rose to NIS 47.36m. from NIS 44.8m. in the previous year.

The company also experienced a quarterly net loss of NIS 729,000, compared with a net profit of NIS 1.7m. for the comparable period in 1993.

Quarterly revenues rose to NIS 12.75m. from NIS 9.7m.

Canthal reported an annual net loss of NIS 814,000, compared with a net gain of NIS 3.2m. in 1993.

Annual revenues dropped slightly to NIS 45.5m. from NIS 45.7m. for the previous year.

The software house said funding costs of NIS 3.7m., compared with NIS 48,000 in the previous year, were primarily responsible for the fall.

The company said Tadiran accounted for 31% of annual revenues, compared with 25.7% in 1993.

Other clients, a government office and a state company, represented a combined 11.9% of annual revenues, compared with 13% in the previous year.

A bank client represented 5% of the annual revenues, compared with 2.6% in 1993.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Average interest rates on commercial bank unlinked shekel loans soared 51.4 percent to 23.31% last December over the same period in 1993, the Bank of Israel reported yesterday. These are the highest rates since February 1992.

Based on those rates, non-banking institutions - better known as the "grey market" - can legally charge up to 52.45% for unlinked shekel loans.

Lufthansa will add 20 flights to its Israel run during April to satisfy the increased demand for Pessah and Easter. This is in addition to its 14 regular weekly flights on the route.

The Industry and Trade Ministry's Investment Center yesterday approved 21 projects for \$39 million, including \$22.5m. for tourism. The center approved the addition of 120 camp sites for \$8.9m. at the Ma'agan camping grounds and an \$8.3m. renovation of the Marina Hotel in Tel Aviv.

In addition, a 229-bed motel will be built in Tiberias for \$3.7m. The center also approved a \$5.4m. expansion of the Mul-T-Lock (Rav-Bariah) plants in Yavne and Barkan and a \$4.8m. expansion of PCB's Migdal Ha'emek plant.

North Africans to participate at Tel Aviv Tourism Fair: Representatives from North Africa are to be among the participants in the Second Annual Tourism Fair, according to Lior Gelfand, director of Ana, which is sponsoring the fair with Israel Travel News.

This year the fair, to be held from May 8 to May 10, is divided into two sections - one devoted to travel abroad and the other reserved for local attractions and accommodations.

ISRAELI MONEY MARKETS

Patah (foreign currency deposit rates) (12.3.95)			
Currency (deposit for)	3 MONTHS	6 MONTHS	12 MONTHS
U.S. dollar (\$250,000)	5.375	5.500	6.125
U.S. dollar (\$100,000)	4.750	5.125	6.000
German mark (DM 200,000)	3.500	3.625	4.250
Swiss franc (SF 200,000)	2.825	2.750	3.375
Yen (10 million yen)	0.750	0.825	0.750

(Rates vary higher or lower than indicated according to deposit)

Shekel Foreign Exchange Rates* (10.3.95)

Currency basket	CHECKS AND TRANSFERS		BANKNOTES		Rep. Rate
	Buy	Sell	Buy	Sell	
U.S. dollar	2.9520	3.0710	2.90	3.04	2.8630
German mark	2.1041	2.1337	2.08	2.18	2.1326
French franc	4.7268	4.8227	4.63	4.85	4.7822
Japanese yen (100)	0.5928	0.6012	0.57	0.61	0.5982
Dutch florin	3.2827	3.2985	3.19	3.24	3.2744
Swiss franc	1.8795	1.9090	1.84	1.93	1.8979
Swedish krona	0.4135	0.4193	0.41	0.42	0.4178
Norwegian krona	0.4732	0.4798	0.46	0.49	0.4789
Denish krona	0.5245	0.5319	0.51	0.54	0.5294
Finnish mark	0.6774	0.6969	0.66	0.70	0.6836
Canadian dollar	2.0876	2.1271	2.06	2.16	2.1154
Australian dollar	2.1948	2.2267	2.19	2.22	2.2132
S. African rand	0.0183	0.0209	0.018	0.023	0.0224
Belgian franc (10)	1.0198	1.0341	1.00	1.05	1.0297
Austrian schilling (10)	2.5936	3.0368	2.54	3.08	3.0244
Italian lire (1000)	1.7770	1.8029	1.73	1.84	1.7911
Jordanian dinar	—	—	4.21	4.47	4.3657
Egyptian pound	3.8944	3.9189	—	0.94	0.9396
ECU	4.7194	4.7859	4.61	4.89	4.7758
Irish punt	2.2885	2.3209	2.22	2.38	2.3127
Spanish peseta (100)	—	—	—	—	—

* These rates vary according to bank. ** Bank of Israel.

SOURCE: BANK LEUMI

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Rishon Lezion wins, stays alive in Final Four race

MACCABI Rishon Lezion repelled a strong Hapoel Jerusalem counter-attack last night to beat the visitors 91-83 in the 25th and penultimate round of the National Basketball League.

Moshe Weinkrantz's team holds a tiebreaker advantage over Hapoel Tel Aviv, and if Hapoel Tel Aviv loses the derby tonight against Maccabi, Rishon will probably be the fourth team in the Final Four. Maccabi Tel Aviv has already clinched first place, and Hapoel Galil Elyon and Hapoel Holon look to have the inside track to complete the quartet.

Rishon led easily for most of the game (46-34 at halftime), but Jerusalem came back strongly, led by Radenko Dovroski. The stick-thin Serbian, who has not had a good season, gave Rishon a nasty fright with red-hot shooting and penetration. However, Gerald Paddio, James Gully and the never-say-die Niv Bugin held the Rishon line and played strongly at the end.

For Rishon, Paddio scored 30 and Gully 22. For Jerusalem, Dovroski sank 22 and Billy

JOEL GORDIN

Thompson chipped in with 19. Galil Elyon 113, Mac Jerusalem 92. Jerusalem kept the close until shortly before halftime when Galil sank 12 unanswered points to lead 56-44 at the buzzer. Jerusalem collapsed in the second half, with Joe Dawson, in particular, playing poorly.

Erez Hazen, who hit four 3 pointers out of his 27 for the evening, was hot for the visitors. A Gary Oded Kanash put together 24, Brad Leaf 18, Terry Dozer and Darra Daye 16 apiece.

For Jerusalem, Dawson hit 19, Shawn Green and Dror Cohen 17 each. Gilad Simhoni fought hard on defense.

Hapoel Holon 92, Hapoel Haifa 57. Haifa's coach Ronny Kahana leaves the country today for the US and it's a pity he stayed for last night's game. The Haifa players had no intention of even trying to put on a good show - hardly surprising considering they have reportedly not been paid for six months.

Shelton Jones scored 23 for Holon who led 37-27 at halftime. Maccabi Ramat Gan 102, Gvat 78.

The most notable incident occurred in the second minute when Gvat's Derrick Gervin and Ramat Gan's Greg Cornelius were given their marching orders after a fist fight. Gervin thus missed his chance to become the league's top scorer. This will probably be secured by Ramat

Gan's John Eubanks, who banged in 36 in the one-sided game. For Gvat, Avi Katz netted 19 and Rodney Munro 17.

Bnei Herzliya 84, Hapoel Eilat 73. Herzliya looked set for an easy victory at halftime, when it led 40-32. However, Eilat's Willie Sims, in the playmaker role, led a strong Eilat counter-attack in the second half and a see-saw battle developed. However, John Hudson's steady shooting hand pulled Herzliya ahead in the final few minutes. Eilat tried to stop the game with fouls, but Herzliya's Rotem Elchik did not err from the line and bounced his team to an 11-point win.

For Herzliya, Hudson sank 20, Eilchik 19, Paul Thompson 12. Amir Katz hit for only eight.

Tonight, Maccabi Tel Aviv and Hapoel clash in the Tel Aviv derby at Yad Eliyahu to be shown live on cable TV. Hapoel Givatayim and Betar Ramat Gan meet in a meaningless game at the Winter Stadium.

National Basketball League

	W	L	Pts.
1. Maccabi Tel Aviv	22	2	48
2. Hapoel Holon	17	8	42
3. Hapoel Haifa	16	9	41
4. Maccabi Rishon	16	9	41
5. Bnei Herzliya	16	9	41
6. Hapoel Tel Aviv	16	9	40
7. Hapoel Jerusalem	14	11	38
8. Hapoel Eilat	13	12	38
9. Maccabi Ramat Gan	12	13	37
10. Maccabi Ramat Gan	11	14	35
11. Hapoel Gvat	9	16	34
12. Hapoel Haifa	8	19	31
13. Hapoel Givatayim	4	20	28
14. Betar Ramat Gan	0	24	24

Utd, Everton reach FA Cup semis

MANCHESTER (AP) - Manchester United stayed on course for a unique back-to-back double of League and Cup triumphs when it downed Queens Park Rangers 2-0 yesterday to reach the semifinal of the FA Cup.

Lee Sharpe scored in the first half and Denis Irwin netted in the second as United, which is chasing Blackburn in the Premier League title race, overpowered Rangers at Old Trafford.

In another quarter-final game, Everton upset Newcastle 1-0 thanks to a goal from team captain Dave Watson.

In the semifinals, to be played April 9 and 10, United faces the winner of the Crystal Palace-Wolves quarter-final replay and Everton meets Tottenham.

Manchester United won both the League and Cup competitions last season but no team has achieved that double for two years in a row.

Four points behind Blackburn with a game in hand, United has the chance to cut that to one by beating Tottenham Wednesday.

With Eric Cantona suspended and Andy Cole ineligible because he had played for Newcastle in the third round, United recalled Ukrainian winger Andrei Kanchelskis to the lineup and appeared in control of the game throughout.

Kanchelskis, reportedly asking for a transfer because he is not guaranteed a first-team place, was a danger to the Rangers defense from the start.

Sharpe fired the Reds ahead in the 22nd minute, shooting home after good approach work by Mark Hughes and Ryan Giggs.

Irwin scored the second in the 53rd minute when Irwin curled a 20-yard free kick into the net after a foul on Hughes.

At Goodison Park, Watson headed the winner in the 66th minute, after Duncan Ferguson had flicked on a corner.

Newcastle, which is third in the Premier League, badly missed its inspirational forward Peter Beardsley, who was sidelined with a hamstring injury.

Tottenham, which shares the record of eight FA Cup triumphs with United, made it to the last four by winning 2-1 at Liverpool Saturday.

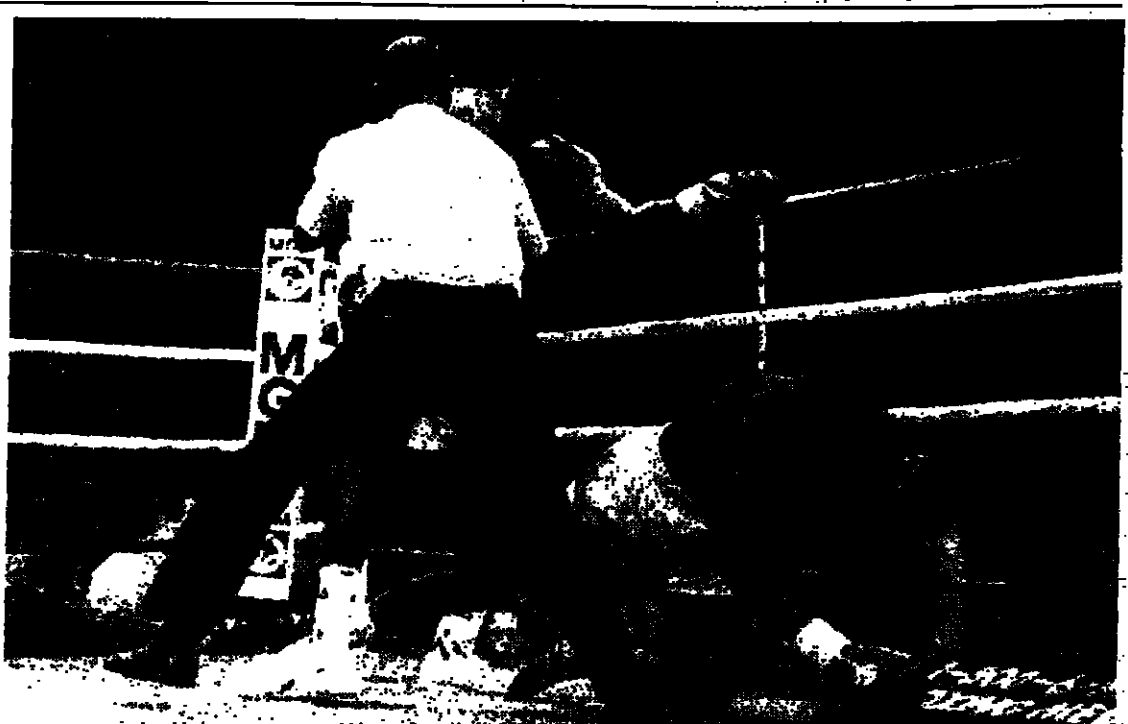
Bowe stops Hide in 6th, wins WBO title

LAS VEGAS (AP) - Riddick Bowe knocked down Herbie Hide seven times and stopped him in the sixth round to win the WBO heavyweight title Saturday night at the MGM Garden.

Bowe took his share of punishment in the wild fight, including several times immediately after he had knocked Hide to the canvas. The win came at 2:35 of Round 6.

The 23-year-old Hide, a native of Nigeria living in England, battled back after the first six KOs. But when he went down for the seventh time from a left-right to the body and left-right to the head, he could only get to one knee and was counted out.

The previously unbeaten Hide weighed in at 214 lbs, with Bowe tipping the scales at 241 lbs.



NO PLACE TO HIDE - Referee Richard Steele stops Riddick Bowe's onslaught as Herbie Hide hits the canvas for the seventh and final time in Round 6.

Villanova beats UConn in Big East

NEW YORK (AP) - Kerry Kittles and Jason Lawson each scored 27 points and No. 13 Villanova withstood one furious rally in the second half yesterday before pulling away to a 94-78 victory over No. 6 Connecticut for its first Big East title.

The second-seeded Wildcats (25-7) won their fourth title game appearance and it seemed like easy going when they took a 67-50 lead with 12:42 to play.

The Huskies (25-4), the first team to ever repeat as Big East regular-season champions with a second straight 16-2 league mark, came up with an eight-minute stretch that brought them within 77-72 with 4:57 left.

That was all they could muster, though, as Connecticut didn't score again until there was 1:38 to play and they were down by 15.

Kittles, the league's player of the year, was named the MVP of the tournament as well.

It was Connecticut's second appearance in the final. The Huskies, who were eliminated in the semifinals last season, won the title in 1990.

The teams split the regular-season meetings, each winning on the other's home court. Villanova was only team to win at Connecticut this season with a 96-73 victory when the Huskies were ranked No. 1.

Hornets down Heat with 3-point barrage

Ewing injured; Rockets end skid

CHARLOTTE (Reuter) - The Hornets stung the Heat with a rash of three-pointers on Saturday to extend their Central Division lead and inch closer to claiming the second best record in the Eastern Conference.

Hersey Hawkins and Dell Curry each made three-pointers in a game-breaking fourth-quarter run as Charlotte made a team-record dozen long-range hoops in beating Miami 104-95.

The win improved Charlotte to 39-22, increased their lead over Indiana to 1 1/2 games in the Central and moved them within half a game of the Knicks in the struggle for second seeding in the playoffs behind the Orlando Magic.

Hawkins and Curry each connected from long range during a 10-4 spurt at the start of the fourth quarter that broke a 74-74 tie. Miami came no closer than three points thereafter.

Curry finished 5-of-7 from three-point range, while Johnson connected on 3-of-4. Hawkins made 3-of-6 from long distance and Burrell made his only attempt. Larry Johnson scored 25 points and Alonzo Mourning and Curry had 21 points.

Glen Rice scored 28 points for Miami.

Supersonics 96, Knicks 84. Shawn Kemp scored 22 points and grabbed 19 rebounds as visiting Seattle cruised to a victory over New York, who lost center Patrick Ewing with a leg injury.

Ewing, the team's leading scorer and rebounder, left the game early in the fourth quarter. He landed on Seattle center Sam Perkins' left foot after making a short sideway jumper and hobbled to the locker room.

"I came down on Sam's foot and my ankle just twisted," said Ewing, who had 34 points. "It's sore right now. We'll have to wait and see how it feels over the next few days."

Delf Schrempf scored 10 of his 22 points in the third quarter for Seattle, helping them break open a close game and move within five games of first-place Phoenix in the Pacific.

"I like playing against the Knicks because they're real physical," said Kemp. "When you play against a team like them, the refs let you play more physical. I've grown up playing that way and that's the way I like it."

Rockets 109, Mavericks 102. Clyde Drexler scored 36 points and Hakeem Olajuwon added 34 points and 12 rebounds as host Houston snapped a five-game losing streak.

The Rockets were in danger of becoming the first defending NBA champion to lose six consecutive games the following season.

SATURDAY'S RESULTS: Washington 110, New Jersey 102; Charlotte 104, Miami 95; Seattle 96, New York 84; LA Lakers 106, Chicago 105; Houston 109, Dallas 102.

Jordan a no-show at practice

CHICAGO (AP) - There was no Michael Jordan for a second straight day as the Chicago Bulls held a pregame workout Saturday. There also was no announcement about his future and no end to speculation that he will return to the NBA.

"It's a tantalizing thing. You talk about the expectations not growing too great behind all this without something being said one way or the other," Bulls coach Phil Jackson said Saturday. "I don't think we can expect Michael to make a decision so rapidly after just coming away from baseball this week."

Jordan quit baseball Friday, clearing his way to come back to basketball. Now he's making decisions.

His commitment to rejoin the Bulls could include assurances that Scottie Pippen also is part of the team's future, according to one report.

The Chicago Tribune, citing sources, reported Saturday that Jordan will ask owner Jerry Reinsdorf to keep Pippen beyond this season should Jordan decide to play in 1995-96.

Pippen, the Bulls' best player without Jordan but not their highest paid this season, has been unhappy all year, especially with general manager Jerry Krause. Pippen, who teamed with Jordan to lead the Bulls to three straight NBA titles, has been the subject of numerous trade rumors since last summer.

Another source told the Chicago Sun-Times that Jordan is discussing a contract for two seasons beyond the current one. A source told the AP on Thursday that Jordan will rejoin the Bulls once he gets his basketball conditioning back.

SCOREBOARD

NHL - SATURDAY'S RESULTS: Florida 2, Boston 6; Pittsburgh 6, Buffalo 2; Quebec 2, NY Islanders 1; Montreal 3, NY Rangers 1; Chicago 2, Toronto 2; Los Angeles 4, Winnipeg 2; Vancouver 5, Anaheim 3.

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